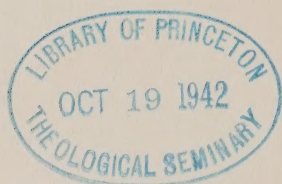



❖ HISTORY ❖

Michigan Conference
of the Evangelical Church

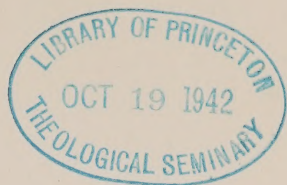
1838—1940



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HISTORY
OF THE
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE
OF THE
EVANGELICAL CHURCH
1838—1940

By
✓
WILLIAM H. WATSON

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HARRISBURG, PA.

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BY
THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE OF
THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

(Printed in U. S. A.)

FOREWORD

The justification for a printed history of any organization must be found in the contribution that organization has made to the total good of the community of which it has been a part.

To tabulate the constructive ministries of the Evangelical Church during the one hundred years that it has labored within the bounds of the Michigan Conference is quite impossible. However, there are enough "tangibles" available for study to convince one that through this important ministry a great host have surrendered their lives to the Divine will, have united in the fellowship of the Christian Church and have been brought to higher levels of citizenship. To attempt to record, in printed form, the story of this century of Evangelical ministry seems not only justified but highly desirable. It is a story full of spiritual romance. It should be read with interest and profit.

Interest in a history of the Michigan Conference appears at an early date. In 1881 the conference appointed the presiding elders and Rev. C. G. Koch as a committee to gather material for the preparation of a history of the conference. Again in 1893 the presiding elders were appointed as a historical committee. There is no record that either of these committees accomplished anything in the preparation of a history.

In 1896 Bishop J. J. Esher appointed the Reverends Edward Weiss, John M. Fuchs and Samuel Copley as a historical committee. This committee began work immediately. Materials were gathered, the entire committee assisting in the work. The editorial work was done by Rev. J. M. Fuchs. The results, a condensed historical statement covering the period from 1839 to 1885, appeared in three sections as a supplement to the Conference Journals in the years of 1898, 1899, and 1900. While containing valuable historical material the work was limited in scope.

Desiring to continue the task of gathering historical materials the conference, in 1903, appointed Rev. Frederick Klump as conference historian. A series of historical articles appearing in the *Michigan Conference Bulletin*, of which Brother Klump was editor and publisher, seem to be the only tangible results of his work as historian. These articles appeared in the years of 1904 and 1905 and dealt only with the history of local congregations.

In 1905 Brother Klump resigned as historian and Rev. Adolph Halmhuber was elected. We have been unable to discover any materials gathered under his direction.

In 1914, in connection with the Jubilee Session of the conference, Rev. E. G. Frye, secretary of the conference, gathered certain information regarding ministers who had served in the conference and some brief historical sketches of local churches which, with a brief historical statement, appeared as a supplement in the *Jubilee Journal*.

At the conference session in 1922 the present historian urged the conference to give some attention to the preparation of a conference history. The conference elected Rev. J. R. Niergarth as conference historian, requesting him to gather materials and prepare a history. Recognizing the great amount of labor involved and the difficulties incident to the gathering of materials Brother Niergarth hesitated to undertake the work.

Nothing having been done over a period of four years the conference again, in the 1926 session, gave the matter consideration. The undersigned was elected and asked to take over the work. Knowing nothing of the work done by previous historians we assumed that source materials would be limited principally to the official records of the conference, local church records, the periodical literature of the church and the memories of aged people. We had no knowledge as to when the first Conference Journal had been printed nor were we aware of the history prepared by Brother Fuchs. Files of the Church's periodical literature was limited mostly to the publishing houses and the educational institutions. The official records of the conference for the first twenty-six years are in German script. This involved translation, since the historian is not a German scholar. This was all a part of the problem.

But the search for materials has been a thrilling experience. Often we have stumbled upon historical nuggets in the most unexpected places. A chance remark on the part of someone has often furnished the clue for a valuable discovery. During the past fifteen years our ears have been alert for some new historical clue and our eyes have scanned thousands upon thousands of pages of material seeking additional light upon Evangelical achievements within the bounds of the Michigan Conference.

We wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to the following persons who have assisted us in the work of translation,—Mr. J. E. Lutzeier, Rev. Samuel Heininger, Rev. Henry Voelker, Mrs. Elizabeth Buby, Rev. L. V. Soldan, Mrs. W. F. Boettcher and Mrs. W. H. Watson. Some of these persons have given a great deal of time to this work.

Our hearty thanks goes to the following persons who have aided us in gathering materials,—Mrs. Peter Scheurer who donated to the Conference Library a bound volume of Conference Journals dating from 1884, the first printed journal of the conference, to 1899.

The Journals have proved of very great value; Rev. D. O. Ruth who contributed a bound volume of Journals covering the years 1897 to 1905. These contain the "Fuchs' History" and have assisted greatly; Rev. Roy B. Leedy, historian of the Ohio Conference, who gave aid in locating important data; Professors E. F. George and Paul H. Eller for generous assistance given during a period spent in research at the Seminary Library; Rev. Garfield H. Kellermann for information concerning files of the *Christliche Botschafter*, *Evangelical-Messenger* and *Evangelical Crusader* available when the Cleveland Publishing House was closed. Our sincere thanks to the publisher for donating these important documents to the Conference Library. This was an important "find."

Also, to Miss Marie Davis who spent a great deal of time seeking information concerning the young people's work in Michigan; to Mrs. Elmer D. Riebel who provided a condensed history of the Conference Branch W. M. S.; to Mrs. F. Klump for the loan of important files of the *Conference Bulletin*; to Rev. Ralph Loose for the loan of the diaries of his father, Rev. J. W. Loose. Here we have the daily record of twenty years in the ministry of this devout man of God.

To the pastors of the local churches for the valuable aid given in supplying field sketches, autobiographical sketches and for aid given in other ways; to Rev. J. W. Heininger and Mrs. Oswald Cronnenwett for the loan of the autobiography of Rev. Samuel Heininger; to Mr. Lincoln Nicolai for the loan of important material. We also acknowledge our indebtedness for important materials found in *Fifty Years in the Ministry* (German), by Rev. Matthew Hoehn. Valuable information concerning Michigan history has been gathered from the works of Dr. George Fuller and Lazelere.

Our thanks is also due the many persons who have loaned or given pictures of deceased ministers, missionaries, conference and district groups and other important gatherings. Many have made available other valuable materials.

We wish to acknowledge also, with deep appreciation, the important service rendered by Mrs. Kenneth Long as a typist. She spent many days typing materials, refusing to accept compensation for her services. Mr. Anthony Ritter has given valuable counsel regarding cuts and the publication of the history in addition to a generous donation in the printing of the prospectuses.

Grateful acknowledgment is also made of the important assistance given by the Conference Committee on Publication. The committee spent a great deal of time in examining the copy prepared, giving counsel concerning materials to be included and planning for the

publication of the book. The following were members of the committee,—F. W. Kirn, C. C. Gibson, E. S. Faust, W. Koteskey, D. C. Ostroth, C. B. Westfall, R. E. Gustafson and George Reamer, the historian serving as chairman of the committee.

Justice would not be fully done without acknowledgment of the important assistance rendered by the historian's wife. For days and weeks, unending, it must have seemed to her, the dining room table has been her husband's work table. Often piled high with the musty, dust-laden tomes of ancient Evangelical literature it could not have resembled anything quite so much as the ruins of an Egyptian pyramid. To one who loves order and neatness in her household such an unsightly and prolonged spectacle must have been more than a minor trial. With stacks of historical materials "tucked" here and there from cellar to garage her house-wifely duties have been materially increased. But in it all she has given cheerful and indispensable coöperation. Perhaps the donor of crowns may add an extra star for her faithfulness in this task.

If in our acknowledgments we have overlooked any who should have been recognized we offer proper apologies. Any oversight is not intentional. We trust none has occurred.

In addition to compiling this history of the conference the historian checked all materials going into the History of the Evangelical Church in Michigan prepared and published by the government as a W. P. A. project. We have also supplied considerable material for their project. In return they have done the art work on an activities map for us.

We also wrote several articles for the "Historical Encyclopedia of Michigan" being edited by Dr. George Fuller. A considerable amount of time was also given in preparing historical materials for the conference centennial celebration in 1939. Materials have also been supplied to several churches in connection with local anniversaries.

Progress in writing the history has been slow, first, because our assignments in district and conference work have been heavy, leaving comparatively small margins of time available for historical work. Second, it has been our desire to locate and examine practically all available source materials before concluding the task. We do have the satisfaction of having made a thorough search for materials.

But the work has held many an appealing joy. To follow those pioneer Evangelical ministers as they rode on horseback over prairies and through forests, forded streams and floundered in swamps, preached in homes, schoolhouses and halls and prayed at family altars with parents and children; to listen to their shouts of joy when souls found God and to hear their groans of disappointment when altars

were barren; to sit with them in the poverty of their humble parsonages and watch with their families as they eagerly awaited the long-delayed return of the husband-father-preacher; such has been an experience to challenge and thrill and humble in one master stroke of emotion.

The names of those more than 500 ministers of the conference have become almost as familiar to us as the names of our own children. Most of their given names have been nailed securely upon memory's corridors. We have come to feel something of a paternal affection (that must sound strange to the reader) for them. A great host of them died before we appeared upon the scene and yet in our imagination we watch them in their labors as a fond father looks upon his children. They have become a part of our life. From their heroic ministries we have found inspiration for our own.

To feel that this history is absolutely accurate at every point and that every statement can stand unchallenged is more than can be hoped for. Even in the printed source materials we have discovered many errors, in names, dates, events, statistics, etc. In most instances they have been typographical and we have found means of making correction. Memories are often faulty and some materials could come only from people who "remember." But care has been taken to secure the greatest possible accuracy. Most of the materials have been checked and rechecked. Should occasional errors be discovered we beg the indulgence of our readers.

We have endeavored to make the history largely factual while making it as readable as possible. In some respects it will resemble an encyclopedia of historical information more than a connected, readable story. But to make a history of this type attractive reading and include all desirable factual material at the same time is difficult, if not impossible. It is our hope that many will find here very valuable and interesting information about the Evangelical Church in Michigan.

To all who have assisted us and to the conference for the privilege of doing this work we say, Thank you.

W. H. WATSON.

Detroit, Mich., March 1, 1942.



REV. W. H. WATSON,
Conference Historian

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INTRODUCTION

To all good churchmen some knowledge of the origin and development of the work of the Christian movement of which they are a part is indispensable. For this reason, we welcome this volume into the growing literature of the Evangelical Church.

A great service has been rendered the Michigan Conference by the untiring labor of loving and devoted thoroughness of the author. The conference gives grateful recognition and acknowledgment herewith. Cicero says: "History is the witness of the times, the torch of truth, the life of memory and the message of antiquity." The scope of this volume covers the first one hundred years of Evangelical missionary work in the Commonwealth of Michigan. A mighty drama is enacted upon the stage of Evangelical history. One is amazed by the wide range of subjects treated. It was Macaulay who said, "To be a really good historian is perhaps the rarest of intellectual distinctions." The author of this volume does a noble work in rescuing from near oblivion those who deserve immortality. He reanimates and revives that which has receded and what time and space have placed at a distance from us.

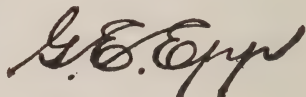
The HISTORY OF THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE shows us that it is in great personalities that the truth becomes instinct with life and power. Across its pages move master men who have shaped the destiny of Evangelical churches in Michigan.

Ministers will find here a brief but authentic record of their career and life's work. Facts unrelated to living personalities are dead, but associated with animated beings they become the windows of history. Pastors and people will read this book with real sympathy and inward participation to secure the spiritual values that derive therefrom. The author paints the picture in colorful lines. He takes the reader with him; often into the hinterland where the creative and redemptive spirit of God is at work. His is a progressive interpretation of the past. As an ecclesiastical guide it is of great value. To Michigan Evangelicals it will become a handbook of valuable information.

Not least among the many whom the Michigan Conference has given to honored and acceptable service, in conference and General Church circles, is the author himself. Rev. W. H. Watson was licensed by the Michigan Conference in 1907. Two years later he was received into the itinerancy. Uninterruptedly since 1906, he has served the conference in conspicuous manner. Twenty-two years of his pastorate have, by the choice of his conference, been given to active leadership in the office of district superintendent. In addition thereto

he has served in numerous other positions of leadership and trust, with distinction and honor. Not only has his conference recognized his leadership ability, but the General Church also has given him confidence. He has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Ebenezer Old People's Home, Haven Hubbard Memorial Old People's Home, and as a member of the Board of Publication and is at present continuing since 1926 as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Superannuation Fund of the Evangelical Church.

We bespeak for this volume a wide circle of interested readers and commend it to the membership and friends of the Michigan Conference as an abiding record of heroic service.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. E. Epp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "G" and "E".

*Bishop of the Central Area,
Chairman of the Michigan Conference.*

*Naperville, Illinois,
March 5, 1942.*

SECTION I

CHAPTER 1

THE MAN—THE MESSAGE—THE FIELD

There was a man sent from God whose name was Altimos—Solomon Altimos, to be quite explicit. To declare that he was sent from God might seem a bit presumptuous were it not for many rays of evidence, not abundant, but ample and convincing, that stream across the pages of Evangelical history testifying to the untiring devotion and the sacrificial ministry of a Christian nobleman and minister. Solomon Altimos was not an ordinary man, at least not in his zeal, his courage, his heroism, his devotion, his spiritual passion, his talents and his achievements.

When he was born, and where, we have not been able to ascertain. Of his ancestry and his posterity we have no trace. Much like a meteor, he streaks out of a dark sky, lighting up expansive geographical and spiritual areas, burning himself out in the intensity of his passion and disappearing almost as suddenly as he appears, leaving only the afterglow of a relatively brilliant ministry and a modest marker erected above his mortal remains by grateful Evangelicals who have followed in his train.

The records of the East Pennsylvania Conference, of the Evangelical Church, state that he was licensed as a preacher on trial in 1833 and stationed on Lake Circuit in the state of New York with Daniel Kehr. In 1834 he was appointed, as preacher in charge, to the Shenandoah Circuit, in Virginia, with Rev. J. Schimp as his colleague. Here, we are told, he labored "with success." In 1835 he was preacher in charge of the Indiana Circuit, in Pennsylvania, with Rev. Jacob Boas as his colleague. In 1836 "he superintended Armstrong Circuit, which then belonged to the Western Conference."

But he was grievously afflicted. That dread disease, epilepsy, had claimed him as a victim. With increasing frequency and severity, he was smitten with epileptic seizures. Since his work called him from home much of the time his condition often occasioned great alarm on the part of the people. So serious did his affliction become that it seemed impossible to continue as a pastor. At the 1837 conference he was unable to accept an appointment. But he was not idle. He traveled across the country preaching as opportunity presented itself and, the historian tells us, "with good effect."

Again, the historian records that on October 10, 1837, John Seybert, later bishop, and Solomon Altimos, Evangelical Crusaders that they were, ignored the severe persecution that had closed the door of every home and hall in the city to them, and at 10 o'clock in the morning and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, preached in the market place in Allentown, Pennsylvania. One year later an Evangelical church was dedicated in that city. This incident serves as a tiny window through which we are permitted to peer into the soul of this preacher-hero, and serves as a clue as to how he spent his time during that conference year.

Sometime during the year of 1838, the exact date is uncertain, Altimos came to Michigan, newly admitted as a state. Its resources and opportunities were just being discovered by immigrants who began to flock to the state in thousands. Settling in Ash Township, near Flatrock, in Monroe County, he began his work sometime in 1838. It is of interest to note that in the *Christliche Botschafter*, under date of January 10, 1839, he reports a class of 17 at Port Creek. In the same issue of the *Botschafter* he reports having held a watch night service December 25, 1838, at Port Creek, when "four penitents prayed for grace." He reports that the Thursday evening following he preached at the same place on Hebrews 13:12-14, that the Lord blessed his word and that they had a glorious service. He writes further, "after the sermon I gave the invitation to penitents and both old and young gave themselves up so that only a few remained who did not call to the Lord for grace. The Lord revealed himself in a powerful manner in our midst. Five souls were converted to God and the believers had a blessed time. But after this the cold professors of the other churches began to persecute, but we gave no heed." He reports that the next evening he preached and three souls were converted. Many others were under deep conviction. This class at Port Creek appears to have been the first organized Evangelical congregation within the bounds of the state.

On December 31, 1838, he held a watch night service at Swan Creek (later Ash Center) with a number of seekers and two finding pardon. On New Year's Day he conducted a love feast at the same place and enjoyed a "precious time." Sunday, January 5, 1839, he visited Detroit where he preached three times in the German language. It would appear that by January, 1839, he had made a good beginning in his work in Michigan.

From his home in Ash Township, like the early disciples, "he went everywhere preaching the gospel." We are informed that he traveled across Southern Michigan preaching with great power, one particular reference being to a service in Centerville, Michigan, where he preached from Matthew 16:24 with unusual effect. He appears to

have preached in several places in Monroe County. He traveled through Northern Ohio and Northern Indiana, as far south and west as Fort Wayne, seeking the lost, preaching the "good news," shepherding his converts, burning himself out for God and the cause dear to his heart.

The reader is invited to let his imagination picture the conditions of 100 years ago,—trackless forests, pathless plains, Indian trails, a mere apology for roads (where roads existed), throughout this vast territory. Huts and hovels scarcely sufficient for the needs of the settlers' families were almost the only hotels and stopping places. No organization worthy of mention, no support from the denominational home base, no salary guarantee—and not much salary. Nothing but an expansive field, thousands of spiritually neglected families, sin, death and appalling need, yes, and lest we forget, a lonely man broken in health, but with the heart of a Saint Paul, traveling, preaching, pleading, planning, suffering, *dying*, for men, for God, for the Evangelical Church. That was Solomon Altimos in Michigan. What a rich heritage in devotion and sacrifice belongs to the Michigan Conference.

Burdened for Michigan and the Northwest Territory Altimos returned to Pennsylvania in 1839 and laid before the General Conference, which met March 25th of that year, a report of his work in this new mission field and made a plea that the General Conference take action to supply workers and develop this new field. Returning to Michigan he continued his labors until the time of his death, which occurred in 1841. The *Christliche Botschafter* of May 1, 1841, carried the following announcement,—“Solomon Altimos is no more. He died on the 18th of March, at his home in Ash Township, Monroe County, Michigan, of his old disease (epilepsy). He had nineteen attacks in succession and then fell asleep to awake no more till the voice of the archangel will raise the dead. He was for eight years a preacher of the Evangelical Association. By his death the Church has lost a faithful shepherd, his neighbors a sincere teacher and servant, his wife and two children a kind husband and father. Still they need not mourn as those who have no hope.”

This brief obituary does not report the fact that he was preaching to the Port Creek congregation on the last Sunday evening of his life and was stricken with an attack while in the pulpit. One of his members, a Mr. George Chamberlain, took him to his home, but one attack followed another in close succession until his death occurred within a day or two. He literally “died in the harness.” The funeral service was conducted by a Rev. Bradford, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who preached the sermon from 1 Corinthians 15:26. “The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.”

His remains rest in the small, but beautiful Port Creek cemetery, appropriately marked by a stone erected by the Michigan Conference in 1897 in grateful appreciation of his remarkable ministry.

Historian Rev. R. Yeakel says of him, "Although he was somewhat odd and singular, probably the consequence of his disease, he was nevertheless, a talented and powerful preacher, fearing neither the power of hell nor of the world. He attacked sin and vice of every shape without fear, and with great seriousness and zeal insisted on immediate conversion." In a footnote in his History of the Evangelical Association, Volume 1, page 325, he adds a further description of Altimos and his characteristics. He says, "He was in person a tall, stately man. In his social intercourse he was quite impressive and his public ministrations were very powerful. He was fearless, witty, keen and somewhat eccentric. At a camp meeting held in the year of 1837 on the land of Christopher Schubert, in Upper Milford, Pa., he preached on the narrow and broad ways, Matthew 7:13, 14, and described seventeen classes of sinners careering down the broad way to perdition. He portrayed some of them so exactly that several guilty persons fled from the grounds for fear they might be *arrested*. He knew how to stop the mouths of scoffers and gainsayers. One of these attacked him on one occasion in a public meeting, saying he would prove by the Scriptures that Altimos was preaching false doctrine. Brother Altimos soon discerned him and asked him whether he could tell where the Psalms could be found?—whereupon this hero answered apologetically that he was not a learned man, but thought the Psalms might be found somewhere in the New Testament! That finished him. Brother Altimos was a brave soldier of the cross and a faithful follower of the Lamb."

There was a man sent from God whose name was Altimos, Solomon Altimos, to be quite explicit.

THE MESSAGE

Solomon Altimos was a man with a message. While no sermon of his is extant so far as we know yet it is not difficult to piece together the bits of available evidence and reconstruct a convincing picture.

Altimos had a message. It must have been simple and direct for it was congenially a part of the plain preaching of the Evangelical Church in that day. His association with Seybert would argue simplicity. It must have been vital and dynamic if one may judge from the results attained. Where Altimos preached things happened. Sincerely he believed the great cardinal truths of the Christian faith.

He saw sin as a great tragedy, a devastating force in the lives of men. He saw men in sin as lost men, lost in separation from God,

lost in wasted life forces, lost in the impending doom of eternal punishment. But there was a way of escape,—a Saviour, Divine, Eternal and adequate to meet the deepest need of the vilest sinner. For salvation and safety men must flee to the offered mercy in Jesus Christ. To delay was perilous; to die in sin was to be damned eternally.

Salvation was a joyous experience, a new birth, a transformation of life, a conversion that touched the inner springs of life and turned the forces of life into new channels. To be saved men must repent, must forsake sin and bring forth fruits of repentance.

It was a rugged message, by a serious man, for a rough and spiritually indifferent generation. But it worked as the results of his ministry testify most eloquently.

Just two of his texts are known to the writer. Hebrews 13: 12, 14. "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come."

And,—

Matthew 16: 24. "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, 'If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.'"

Both portions of scripture seem like a chapter out of the life of this devoted man. He had *gone forth* without the camp bearing his Lord's reproach. He *had denied* himself and taken up his cross. He *was seeking* a continuing and eternal city. Discipleship meant that to Solomon Altimos as he traversed the lonely trails in his itineraries and endured the indescribable hardships of an afflicted circuit rider.

He believed that Christian discipleship must mean that to others also. They must bear their Lord's reproach. They must deny themselves. They must take up the cross. They must seek that continuing and eternal city. That appears to have been a dominant note in his preaching, the heart of his message to the pioneers of Michigan.

THE FIELD

So far as is known the first white man to set foot on Michigan soil was Jean Nicolet, a Frenchman, who lived for many years among the Indians and in 1634 reached a spot where now stands the city of Sault Ste. Marie. Following Nicolet came Jesuit missionaries, explorers, and traders, notable names, many of them,—Joliet, LaSalle, Pere Marquette, Dollier, Galinee and others.

July 24, 1701, Cadillac arrived from Montreal, at the present site

of Detroit, with a party of fifty soldiers and fifty settlers. Thus began Michigan's metropolis. Two years later the first white woman to visit Michigan came in the person of Madame Cadillac.

Until 1760 Michigan was under French control. Then for 23 years, 1760 to 1783, Michigan was held by the English. At the close of the Revolutionary War England ceded everything south of the great lakes to the United States, though the fort at Detroit was held by the English until 1796. Since that time, except for the brief period when the English held Detroit during the war of 1812, the stars and stripes have floated undisturbed over Michigan.

Michigan Territory (North West Territory) once extended westward as far as the Mississippi River. Organization of the territory was accomplished gradually, beginning with the organization of Wayne County. At the time of its organization in 1796, Wayne County included all the lower peninsula, the eastern half of the upper peninsula and portions of what are now Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. But so unsettled were the minds of the politicians in those days that in 1800 Michigan was divided between Ohio and Indiana on a line running north from the boundary line between the two states. Other changes occurred but in 1805 Congress made Michigan a separate territory with boundaries approximating those of the present lower peninsula. The upper peninsula was added later in compensation for losses along the southern border in settling a boundary line dispute with Ohio. In 1805 the state was officially named Michigan and Detroit was made the capital. The population of the entire state was less than 4,000.

During the years of French control furs were Michigan's one valuable crop. Michigan territory was considered the best beaver region in the whole northwest and Michigan furs made an important contribution to the fortune of John Jacob Astor and his American Fur Company.

Michigan is favored with one of the most attractive and salubrious climates on the Western Hemisphere in this latitude. The climate on the west side of the state is much milder than on the Wisconsin side of the lake, the spring season coming 13 days earlier and the fall season five days later at Grand Haven than at Milwaukee, directly across the lake. However, the settling of Michigan came much later than the settling of some other sections of the country.

Probably the chief reason for this was an unfavorable report on the part of government surveyors who either willfully or ignorantly reported the land as being very poor, declaring that, "there would not be more than one acre in a hundred, if there would be one in a thousand, that would in any case admit of cultivation" for, "the intermediate space between the swamps and lakes, which is probably nearly

one-half of the country, is, with few exceptions, a poor, barren, sandy land on which scarcely any vegetation will grow except very small scrubby oaks." Shades of Portage Prairie, Ogden, Sebawaing and hundreds of other fertile areas! But the report did its work and thousands passed Michigan by to take up other lands really less desirable. Added to the government report was the reputation for cold winters and fever and ague. Hence for several years the tides of immigration flowed past Michigan.

Then shortly after the turn of the century Michigan's advantages were discovered. The people from New England, New York and Pennsylvania discovered that Michigan was not a barren waste. Here was fertile soil, here were virgin prairies, here was a congenial climate, here were valuable forests, here were opportunities unexcelled anywhere. The tide turned. Thousands set their faces toward this new land of promise.

Through Governor Cass land offices were opened in convenient places. With the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 and with steamboats on Lake Erie, the East had a direct waterway to Michigan shores. By 1836 the government had purchased all the land from the Indians (except a few reservations) and made it available to settlers.

Transportation within the state began to improve. To quote Dr. Fuller, "Within a score of years (1819-39) the birch bark canoe gave way to the steamboat and the Indian trail to the railroad." Michigan's first road was built for war purposes between Detroit and Toledo in 1818. The first inland road was built between Detroit and Saginaw. A stage began to operate between Detroit and Pontiac in 1826. In 1836 a stage was operating between Detroit and Chicago over the old Chicago road, though in many places it was all but impassable. By 1834 a stage was running over "Territorial Road" through Jackson and the Kalamazoo valley to St. Joseph. Other roads of lesser importance were under process of construction during the later part of this period, 1819-39.

The agitation for railroads also began. The first railroad in Michigan, the Erie and Kalamazoo Railroad, began operation between Toledo (then Port Lawrence) and Adrian under horse power in 1836. The first locomotive to operate in Michigan ran over this line in 1837. The Detroit and St. Joseph Railroad ran its first cars between Detroit and Ypsilanti, drawn by horses over strap-rails, in 1836. These were the beginnings of rail transportation in the state.

Many of Michigan's principal cities were founded during this twenty-year period, 1819-39, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Ionia, Port Huron, Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor being among the number. In 1835-36 Monroe was the rival of Toledo, equalled Chicago in population and was believed by many to have a brighter prospect than

Chicago. Colleges were founded at Kalamazoo and Albion in 1833 and 1835 respectively. Several newspapers were established in newly founded cities. The great land speculation that climaxed in deflation and panic in 1837 was under way.

How people did flock to Michigan! In 1805 the entire population of the territory was but 4,000. In 1818 Detroit had but 1,040 persons, not including the military garrison. But by 1830 Michigan's census showed 31,640 persons, 32 of whom were slaves. In 1834 the census showed a population of 87,278, an increase 280% in four years. In 1837, the year before Altimos arrived, the census revealed a population of 172,543, an increase of almost 200% in one year. Of this number 23,400 were in Wayne County, 10,646 in Monroe County, 8,892 in Macomb County and 6,337 in St. Clair County.

Great was the enthusiasm that prevailed. At a Fourth of July celebration at Ann Arbor the speaker gave a toast to the Territory of Michigan as "The Yankee's Land of Promise, flowing with milk and honey." One enthusiast with poetic gifts wrote several stanzas of praise, one of which was as follows:

"My Eastern friends who wish to find,
A country that will suit your mind,
Where comforts all are near at hand,
Had better come to Michigan."

Reports of success in raising crops were carried speedily to the east and raised expectations to a high point. The following reported in a Western New York paper will serve as an illustration. "One fact speaks more than a volume of description and reasoning (writes the editor of the *Northwestern Journal*, December 2, 1829). Mr. Savary left this city last spring with his wife, two children, one hired man and a team of horses. He proceeded to Pigeon Prairie (St. Joseph County, Michigan), put up a block house, fenced in a field of fifteen acres, which he planted with corn, from which he gathered a crop of 3,000 bushels, and another field which he sowed with wheat. With the proceeds of part of the corn and his livestock he paid the first cost of the land, all his expenses and has money in his pocket. He has also remaining nearly 100 hogs and 2,000 bushels of corn." Later the same editor remarks: "We are now able to add that the statement we made then (about a month earlier) was, to say the least, a very moderate one. In addition to the proceeds of his crops, amounting at a low estimate to more than one thousand dollars, his improvements have added one thousand dollars to the value of the land. And this in the brief period between the first of March and the first of November." (Quoted from Dr. Fuller's history.)

For the Yankees of New England and the Germans of Pennsylvania who had experienced much difficulty in scratching out a living

from among the boulders of unproductive mountain sides this did sound like the Land of Promise and they came, literally they came by the thousands, until by 1837 "it seemed as if all New England were coming to the state."

But one must not imagine a land free from hardship. Quite the contrary. Michigan offered those hardy pioneers a full quota of hardships. Fever and ague were almost as common as the mosquitoes that infested the swamps. It is reported that in 1840 in Commerce township, Oakland County, "the various dwellings within the bounds of the afflicted region were one vast series of hospitals." Rev. J. M. Fuchs, first historian of the Michigan Conference tells of a resident of Washtenaw County who boasted of having fever and ague 366 times in one year. That would seem to have been a prolonged annual shake. Doctors and ministers were scarce and many died without medical attention and were buried without religious rites.

Postal service was very primitive and rather expensive. Letter postage was 25 cents and need not be prepaid. Letters often laid in the post office for weeks before those to whom they were addressed could pay the postage and claim the letter.

In those pioneer days money was scarce and business was carried on largely by bartering. Groceries were high. Tea was \$3.00 per pound. Flour \$8.00 per barrel and pork \$21.00 to \$24.00 per barrel. One turkey would buy an acre of land and a pound of tea would buy two acres of land. Produce of various kinds was frequently the medium of exchange.

An interesting incident is told concerning an early settler living about eight miles from Coldwater. The wife of this settler was sewing and had the misfortune to break her one and only needle. She informed her husband that she could not finish her sewing without another needle. Coldwater was the nearest trading point so the man prepared to make the trip to that village. Having no money with which to purchase a needle he looked about for something that might be traded and found a large egg. Taking the egg he journeyed to Coldwater where he made known his errand to a merchant and asked if the merchant would accept the egg in exchange for a needle. The merchant agreed and the exchange was made.

It was the custom in those early days for merchants to keep a keg of whiskey in their place of business and customers were allowed a drink of whiskey with each transaction as a treat from the dealer. After exchanging the egg for the needle the farmer said, "I suppose I am entitled to a drink of whiskey." "Certainly," said the merchant, "help yourself." Said the farmer, "I always take an egg with my whiskey," whereupon the merchant returned to him the egg he had taken in exchange for the needle. The farmer broke the egg into the

glass of whiskey and behold it was a double yolked egg. The farmer drank his whiskey with the egg and then said to the merchant, "since that was a double yolked egg don't you think I am entitled to two needles in exchange." The merchant agreed that he probably was so entitled and gave him another needle completing the transaction. The story is that these two men were fast friends for many years afterward. (Recorded in Fuller's History of Michigan.)

Religious privileges were exceedingly limited. Almost the only ministry available was that of the circuit riders who heroically shared the hardships of their people. But the circuits were large and the visits of the circuit rider to any community quite infrequent. When these itinerating ministers of the gospel came to any community, the people were gathered into their homes or in schoolhouses for religious services. The announcement for the services was usually about as follows,—“Preaching at the schoolhouse in Blank settlement on Blank evening at early candle light, and don't forget to bring a candle.” The salary of the circuit rider was always small, ranging from much less than one hundred dollars to a maximum of seldom more than three hundred dollars per year and was usually paid in produce.

It was into this kind of a setting that Solomon Altimos, attracted by the tremendous tide of immigration to Michigan and sensing the great spiritual need of these unshepherded multitudes, came in 1838. To the meeting of this spiritual need he came to add his bit and, in the providence of God, became the first Evangelical Missionary to the State of Michigan.

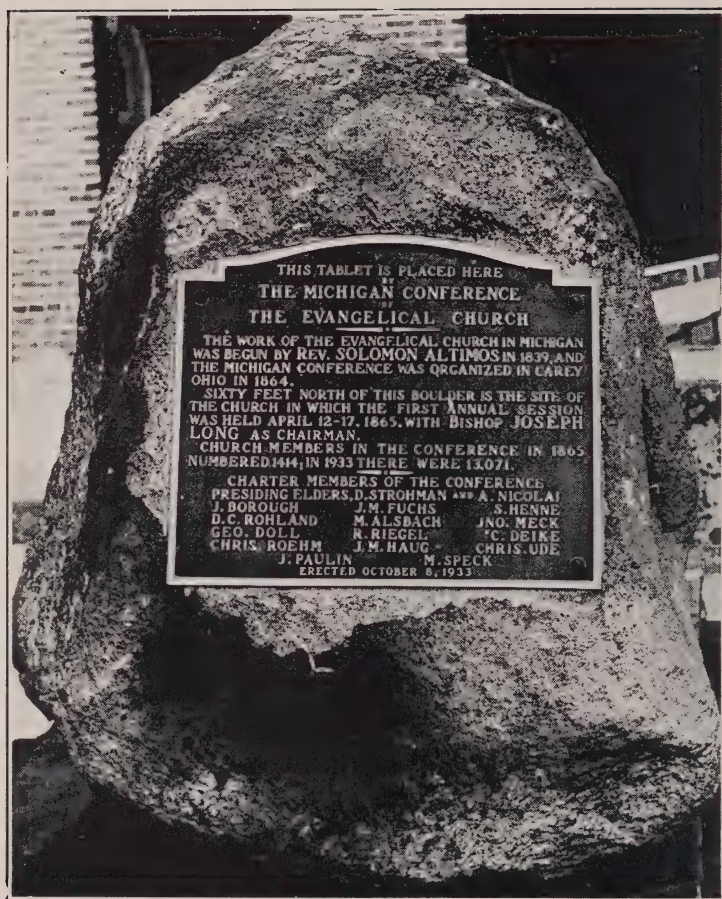
It does not seem out of place to repeat again, “There was a man sent from God whose name was *Altimos*.”



BISHOP JOHN SEYBERT
*First Evangelical Bishop to
visit Michigan*



THIS STONE MARKS THE GRAVE
OF REV. SOLOMON ALTIMOS IN
THE PORT CREEK CEMETERY



THIS TABLET IS PLACED HERE
THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE
THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH
 THE WORK OF THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN MICHIGAN
 WAS BEGUN BY REV. SOLOMON ALTIMOS IN 1839, AND
 THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE WAS ORGANIZED IN CAREY,
 OHIO IN 1864.
 SIXTY FEET NORTH OF THIS BOULDER IS THE SITE OF
 THE CHURCH IN WHICH THE FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
 WAS HELD APRIL 12-17, 1865, WITH BISHOP JOSEPH
 LONG AS CHAIRMAN.
 CHURCH MEMBERS IN THE CONFERENCE IN 1865
 NUMBERED 144; IN 1933 THERE WERE 13,071.
 CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE
 PRESIDING ELDERS, D. STROHMAN *** A. NICOLAI
 J. BOROUGH J.M. FUCHS S. HENNE
 D.C. ROHLAND M. ALSBACH JNO. MECK
 GEO. DOLL R. RIEGEL C. DEIKE
 CHRIS. ROEHM J.M. HAUG CHRIS. UDE
 J. PAULIN M. SPECK
 ERECTED OCTOBER 6, 1933

THE MARKER ERECTED IN 1933 AT THE SITE OF THE BEAGLE CHURCH. IN
 THE BEAGLE CHURCH THE FIRST CONFERENCE SESSION WAS HELD IN 1865

CHAPTER 2

FROM THE DEATH OF ALTIMOS TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

1841 — 1864

Among the immigrants who came flocking to Michigan during the years following the death of Altimos were numerous Evangelicals from Pennsylvania. Their homes in the East had been the frequent stopping places of Evangelical itinerants. Removed to this new territory where religious privileges were limited, the visit of the circuit rider was thrice welcome.

Through information gathered by Rev. J. M. Fuchs, we learn that following Altimos came a family by the name of Hoemis (or Hoennes, the information is not certain), also from Pennsylvania, who settled not far from Ypsilanti. According to his own statement Mr. Hoemis was converted under the labors of Jacob Albright. Of his conversion he says, "I had a hotel and feed barn in a small town where Mr. Albright several times fed his horse. His still, earnest, but always friendly deportment impressed me, and as I heard one day that Albright was to preach several miles in the country in the evening, I resolved to go also and hear him. The sermon made such a deep impression upon me that I resolved to quit the hotel business and seek the salvation of my soul."

Bro. Hoemis was also acquainted with Bishop Seybert. The early Evangelical preachers who came to Michigan always found a welcome in his home. A number of German people located near his home and he may have been instrumental in having Ann Arbor Mission established by the Ohio Conference.

John Seybert, peerless missionary bishop, seems to have been the second Evangelical minister to visit Michigan, though details are lacking. In the *Botschafter* in 1841, Seybert reports that he returned from the states of Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan. No information is given regarding appointments served in Michigan.

1845

The Ohio Conference at its sixth session beginning May 14, 1845, Bishop John Seybert being chairman, voted to found a mission in the Maumee Valley and another near Ann Arbor. A part of the Maumee Valley mission later became a part of the Michigan Conference.

Rev. Daniel Kern was stationed on the Maumee and Rev. George

Kaag on the Ann Arbor missions. George Kaag became the first Evangelical minister under appointment within the bounds of the State of Michigan. Rev. J. G. Zinzer was the first presiding elder to serve on Michigan soil.

As nearly as can be ascertained, Brother Kaag's charge at the time of his appointment in 1845, included the following appointments,—Adrian in Lenawee Co., East Raisenville in the neighborhood of Elias and Charles Loose in Monroe Co., in the Hoemis home near Ypsilanti, in the homes of John and Casper Wagner near Ann Arbor and in the home of Father Schulte in Freedom Twp., the last three points being in Washtenaw Co. Thus it appears that his charge extended into three counties.

1845 — 1846

In the month of July, 1845, Bishop Seybert visited Ann Arbor mission, probably in Washtenaw County where he spent a week visiting and preaching daily. Here he found more than 1500 Germans, mostly foreign immigrants, located rather close together. Many attended the preaching services, among them a number of Catholics. In his report Seybert remarks, "If therefore the 'Friend of Truth' (a German Roman Catholic Newspaper), should feel itself prompted again to ridicule Brother Seybert's melting meetings in the West, he may also add in a vein of seriousness, that some of his Catholic brethren have actually attended some of these meetings, and have themselves been wonderfully *melting*, and it appears that some of them are not far from the Kingdom of heaven."

During the year George Kaag made several missionary journeys to Waterloo in Jackson Co., and to Marshall and Eckford in Calhoun Co. Careful study of available data would indicate that during this first year he also established appointments at Park, Flatbush, and Centerville in St. Joseph Co. From his second report to the *Botschafter* under date of February 6, 1846, we take the following,—“By the help of God my sphere has been remarkably extended since my last report. I have a province of about 300 miles to travel in which I have twelve preaching places. This mission has 43 members, some of whom are converted and some are seeking souls. Although the German settlers in this state live very scattering, I have not tired of hunting them up.” Remembering the almost impassable roads and the innumerable hardships involved, one could have pardoned him for feeling a bit weary.

The report to Conference at the end of the year indicated that there had been 35 conversions and 52 accessions during the year. The membership stood at 66. In its report the Conference Missionary So-

ciety commented upon this encouraging success and called attention to the need for two pastors.

Returned alone to the Ann Arbor mission in 1846, George Kaag continued the work established during the previous year, and continued to follow up openings in new communities. But his work was made more difficult because of illness among the people, evidently fever and ague.

Under date of November 17, 1846, he reports through the *Botschafter*. "But on account of the sickness of the people I have had hitherto little opportunity to do anything publicly. Since before the harvest the people could scarcely anywheres attend the meetings." Yet enough are well and able to attend so that he tries to carry on. Always he is asking the prayers of the church that the Lord's work may be extended. The Presiding Elder, J. G. Zinzer, had paid him a visit, and in November, Bishop Seybert had visited him (a stop-over on a trip from Bloomington, Iowa, to Greensburg, Ohio, which Seybert himself reports in the *Botschafter* under date of January 11, 1847). But Seybert was also very weak from a severe attack of the fever and the hardships of travel in inclement weather over "bad roads." Apparently Seybert preached on the mission though it is not definitely stated. But the strain of constant preaching and extensive travel over almost impassable roads were more than George Kaag could stand. He fell ill, was unable to attend his conference at its next session and in a few years passed to his reward.

The work goes forward but on the broken bodies of devoted men. In the *Botschafter* under date of April 16, 1847, he makes his final report from which we quote,—“Although affliction and adversity were sometimes my lot, yet on the other hand I had the joy of seeing lost sinners come to Jesus, who are now delighting themselves in the service of the Most High and their effort likewise is to live a devout and godly life. There is hope that the Lord will extend his work more and more in this state among the German people, for the people are attentive to the Word, and many seem to long for salvation and forgiveness of sins in the blood of Christ.”

From the 1847 report of the Ohio Conference Missionary Society, we glean the following facts concerning Ann Arbor Mission: The church membership was 99, a net gain of 44 during the year; a new church edifice had been erected, the first Evangelical church building in Michigan; a Sunday school had been organized with 30 members, also the first Evangelical Sunday School in the State. The work has been greatly extended and the prospects for future extension very promising. It is now imperative that two missionaries be sent to the field instead of one.

THE FIRST CHURCH BUILDING

The first church edifice to be erected by the Evangelical Church in Michigan was erected near the city of Ann Arbor sometime in the year of 1846 or 1847 and was reported in 1847. The brick edifice erected and dedicated in the city of Adrian in 1849 was reported at the time as the second Evangelical church to be erected in Michigan.

The statement made by another historian, and accepted for a time by the writer as correct, that the Freedom church, erected in 1852 and dedicated by Bishop Seybert the same year, was the first Evangelical church to be erected in Michigan, is now shown to be an error.

We turn back to 1845 to record the fact that during September of that year Bishop Joseph Long visited Detroit where he was entertained in the home of Professor Winkler of the Lutheran Church, and preached in the Lutheran church on Sunday. Leaving Detroit on Monday he began his journey westward on horseback, spending a few days at Ann Arbor in a big meeting. Continuing he journeyed through Clinton, Jonesville, Elkhart, Valparaiso and Joliet to Naper-ville.

1847

At the session of the Ohio Conference in May, 1847, Rueben Riegel was received as a probationer and C. A. Munk and H. D. McBride were ordained as deacons. Riegel and McBride were later members of the Michigan Conference. Munk served in Michigan territory under appointment by the Ohio Conference. The Conference established another mission along the St. Joseph River. The following were appointed to Michigan: J. J. Kopp, presiding elder; Maumee Mission, John Nicolai; Ann Arbor, Jacob Honecker; St. Joseph, C. A. Munk. At this session it was reported that the salary of the unmarried minister was \$56.52.

Soon after this session of the Conference "Bishop Seybert, in company with Brother Honecker, journeyed to Michigan, preached at all appointments on the Ann Arbor Mission" and continued on to Waterloo, Jackson Co.; Eckford, in Calhoun Co., and into St. Joseph Co. This appears to have been the fourth visit Bishop Seybert had made to Michigan. (Rev. J. M. Fuchs has reported it as the second. But we have examined reports on Seybert's visits to Michigan in the years of 1841-45-46, and this visit in 1847 would be his fourth.)

At Eckford a protracted meeting was conducted by the brethren J. J. Kopp and C. A. Munk in which twelve persons were converted and a class organized. On the Ann Arbor Mission many were converted during the year and 52 were newly received. For the Maumee Mission, J. Nicolai reports ten conversions and ten newly received, with 156 members at the close of the year.

From the reports of Kopp, Honecker, and Munk, we learn that during the year all have been compelled to undergo the ordeal of fever and ague. It has interfered with them in their work, often they have been compelled to stop in their travels, tarrying in the home of strangers until recovered sufficiently to continue their journey. On one occasion, Brother Honecker went to find some families who had settled in Monroe Co. He lost his way and was compelled to tarry all night with Indians. The next day they led him out of the wilderness. On another occasion his horse became mired. So deep was the mud and so difficult the situation that he was compelled to abandon the horse to work his way out as best he could. Fortunately both horse and rider succeeded in working their way out; both covered with mud and thoroughly soaked with water.

In a communication to the *Botschafter* in February, 1848, Brother Honecker reports that in spite of great bodily weakness and several attacks of the fever he has been able to carry on. A number of protracted meetings have been held, Brother Kopp assisting. Sinners have been converted, the membership increased, the darkness is giving way, prejudice is disappearing and this "dry field" in the Lord's vineyard is beginning to "look green." He pleads with those entrusted with means to manifest a genuine missionary spirit.

Brother Kopp in a communication to the *Botschafter* under date of March 17, 1848, reports that Rev. C. A. Munk, pastor of the St. Joseph Mission, had been ill with fever much of the year, returning to his work apparently some time in the winter. He also reports a meeting held at Fisher's Lake (near Three Rivers) which began March 3rd and continued for several days with marked success. Of his own illness, Brother Munk reports—"In September when I was ready to hold two big meetings I became ill with a hard fever which weakened me so that not before February was I again able to continue my mission work."

1848

At the Ohio Conference, which met May 10, 1848, under the chairmanship of Bishop Long, the Maumee Mission was renamed Perrysburg, George Doll was ordained deacon and the following appointments affecting Michigan were made: Presiding Elder, Henry Longbrecht; Perrysburg Mission, C. A. Munk; Ann Arbor Mission, Jacob Honecker; St. Joseph Mission, George Doll. It was reported at this conference that two new Sunday schools were organized during the year.

Shortly after the conference session, Bishop Seybert visited Michigan. He spent Ascension Day on Ann Arbor Mission preaching three times that day. In the morning his subject was "The Incarna-

tion of Christ in the Flesh," in the afternoon "The Ascension," and in the evening "Christ's Future Coming to the General Judgment." He reports that it was a blessed day. He appears to have remained in the community for a few days and reports an appointment at Brother Almendingers for 9:00 A. M. June 4, 1848, and another for three o'clock on the afternoon of the same day, at Brother Bertke's or Schulte's. Continuing his journey westward he attended a session of the M. E. Conference at Coldwater, remaining incognito, though he stopped at the same hotel with some of the ministers.

Presiding Elder Henry Longbrecht reports in the *Messenger* concerning his visits to Michigan for quarterly meetings in June 1848. He is impressed that Michigan is a great harvest field but the laborers are few. He thinks the laborers could be found if means were available to support them. He makes a plea for generous support of the missionary cause.

Jacob Honecker, pastor of Ann Arbor Mission, reports on Longbrecht's meeting on this mission, which came on Pentecost Sunday, that it was a real Pentecost with a number of conversions and accessions. He tells of his visits to one family in straightened circumstances who were eager for salvation and gave him their last farthing for the support of the gospel. He further comments that it is utterly impossible to serve all the appointments to which he is invited to preach.

From the St. Joseph Mission, George Doll reports a blessed quarterly meeting at Eckford in June and another in October at Fisher's Lake. Conversions resulted from this second meeting which was protracted until about ten persons were saved. A small class is reported about three miles from Colon. His charge is so extended that two men are needed to serve it satisfactorily.

In March of 1849 he reports a "big meeting" held, resulting in conversions. The last quarterly meeting held at Eckford, March 2nd to 5th, resulted in conversions and a number of accessions. Always the burden is that souls may be saved and the Lord's work extended. In all Brother Doll had twelve appointments on the St. Joseph Mission, with a circumference of about 100 miles.

From the Ann Arbor Mission the pastor, J. Honecker reports, in April, on a glorious quarterly meeting held at Pleasant Lake (Freedom) in the month of February when sixteen persons were converted and ten united with the church. He reports also a nice class in Adrian, and, also that a lot has been purchased opposite the courthouse for \$125.00. A brick church is in process of erection. It will be the first German church in this city.

From the report of the Missionary Society of the Ohio Conference we learn that we have a fine brick church at the edge of the city of

Ann Arbor. On the Ann Arbor Mission there is a Sunday school with two teachers and 15 scholars, and on the St. Joseph Mission, a school with four teachers and 18 enrolled. The salary of the single preacher that year was \$47.10.

1849

At its session in 1849 the Ohio Conference made the following appointments to Michigan territory: Presiding Elder, Henry Longbrecht; Perrysburg Mission, C. A. Munk; Ann Arbor Mission, John Honecker; St. Joseph Mission, George Doll. The salary of the unmarried preacher is \$53.43.

During the Summer of this year, Bishop Seybert made another visit to Michigan, reaching both Ann Arbor and St. Joseph Missions, rejoicing in the success attending the work. It was on this trip at a meeting held two miles south of Colon, St. Joseph Co., that Seybert granted license to the first ministerial recruit from Michigan. In his Journal under date of June 8, 1849 he writes, "After the sermon I received John Buth into our ministerial ranks as a preacher on probation and gave him license. May God anoint him with Divine grace and make him a successful servant in the vineyard of the Lord." A year later he records John Buth as one of the preachers at a big meeting at Fisher's Lake. Later in the Summer Bishop Long visits the state finding Brother J. Honecker sick with fever and ague.

During the year George Doll reports an inspiring quarterly meeting at Eckford, and three successful revivals. One at Fisher's Lake and two at unnamed places with conversions and accessions. He states that if the work is to be established effectively there must be English as well as German preaching. The language question is emerging.

From the Ann Arbor Mission John Hoecker reports a number of successful revival meetings and an increase in the membership on the mission.

Through Presiding Elder, Henry Longbrecht, comes the report of dedication of the new church at Adrian, November 4, 1849. More people attended than could get into the building. With the aid of Bishop Long, the meeting was protracted for a week with several conversions. But Pastor Honecker conveys the information that upon this new church in Adrian, the second on Ann Arbor Mission, there rests a debt of \$350.00, which this poor congregation is unable to pay. An appeal for help is made, all gifts were to be sent to Christoph Beagle, Adrian.

That perennial scourge of pioneer days, fever and ague, has from time to time interrupted the labors of pastor Honecker during this year. But he has "good courage."

In the extreme southwestern part of the state, important developments are occurring. The indefatigable Bishop Seybert in his journeys passed through Niles and across the fertile lands of Portage Prairie. He was a good judge of soils and here was excellent land unoccupied. When he returned to Pennsylvania he reported on this extraordinarily fine land at Portage Prairie. This good report brought four brothers, Jacob, John, David and George Rough to Portage Prairie, Berrien County, where they settled in the Summer of 1849. Bishop Seybert followed them the same Summer, preached for them and organized a class.

He then wrote Rev. J. J. Esher, later Bishop, who was pastor of the Elkhart Circuit, which was then a part of the Illinois Conference, requesting him to serve Portage Prairie with his charge. This he did, with the aid of his colleague, Brother Wolf, though Bishop Esher called attention to the fact that Portage Prairie made the 30th appointment on his field, there having been 29 before, and so the Portage Church has the unique distinction of having been founded by a Bishop and of having had a man who later became Bishop as their first pastor.

It is also reported that the Rough brothers made a trip to Illinois where they examined land at Plainfield, also recommended by Bishop Seybert. However, they decided to return to Portage Prairie and cast their lot in that community. And so step by step Michigan is being opened to the ministry of the Evangelical Church.

1850

At the session of the Ohio Conference beginning May 18, 1850, it was reported that on the Perrysburg Mission there were 68 members, on Ann Arbor Mission 84, and on St. Joseph Mission 70. The salary for the single minister was \$46.32. The following were appointed to Michigan charges: Presiding Elder, Henry Longbrecht; Perrysburg, Henry Douny; Ann Arbor Mission, John Lutz; St. Joseph Mission, John G. Kissell.

On the second of August, 1850, Bishop Seybert arrived on Ann Arbor Mission where he tarried for a few days calling among the people and preaching. He found a controversy raging because a minister of another church had baptized a child who had been baptized by our missionary, apparently on the ground that our pastor was a heretic whose right to perform the rites of the church was disputed. Quoting from the Augsburg Confession and the scriptures, the Bishop defends our missionary and sharply attacks his critic. On August 8th, he arrives on the St. Joseph Mission where he finds things in a prosperous condition. At a big meeting held at Fisher's Lake in August, 1850 Seybert reports a blessed communion service and a baptismal service in which John Buth, Dominic Seger, Jonathan Burger,

Peter Blum, Peter Strohm, Margaret Blum, Christine Meier and Henrietta Frei were baptized.

1851

May 14, 1851, the Ohio Conference convened under the chairmanship of Bishop Seybert.

The statistical reports indicated that progress was being made on the mission fields in Michigan. The Perrysburg Mission reported 10 conversions, 30 accessions and a membership of 91. Ann Arbor Mission, 1 converted, 2 accessions, and a membership of 81. (The Ann Arbor pastor had been sick much of the year with fever and ague.) St. Joseph Mission, 15 conversions, 24 accessions, and a membership of 93. Progress was reported in the Sunday-school work, Ann Arbor reporting two schools, 10 teachers and 40 pupils, and St. Joseph five schools with 100 pupils. The salary of the unmarried minister was reported at \$74.00. Action was taken by the Conference giving detailed direction as to salary standards and methods of raising salaries for pastors, presiding elders, and Bishops. Pastors were permitted to keep all collections, general and those by letter (?), on their charges until their salary is made up in full. However, the presiding elders were to receive all collections at quarterly meetings, one-half of the collections at campmeetings and one-half of the collections "at all protracted meetings they appoint." A Conference collection was to be taken at each appointment on every circuit at the close of the year for the support of such itinerant preachers as were short in their salaries and for the support of superannuated preachers, their widows and orphans. The salary of presiding elder shall be at least up to the average of all salaries of the Conference. Numerous other details were provided for.

The following were appointed to Michigan charges: Presiding Elder, Henry Longbrecht; Perrysburg, Henry Douny (Downey); Ann Arbor, J. G. Stiom; St. Joseph, J. G. Kissel, and M. Hoehn.

In the Spring of 1851 the Illinois Conference sent their pastors to the Elkhart Circuit of which Portage Prairie was a part. The average salary in that Conference had been \$46.32 for the year, less than one dollar per week.

From the autobiography of Rev. M. Hoehn we gather some interesting experiences from his ministry on the St. Joseph Circuit, during that year of 1851. The circuit consisted of between 25 and 30 appointments extending over practically all of St. Joseph and Calhoun Counties, and into portions of Cass and Kalamazoo Counties and probably into Indiana.

Rev. Hoehn was the junior preacher and labored under direction of Rev. J. G. Kissel. During the year his colleague, Rev. Kissel, became

involved in difficulty and was removed from active service with the result that Brother Hoehn had to serve this extended circuit alone.

Early in the year at a schoolhouse appointment, a group of young people came bent on mischief, lying down on the benches and creating disturbance generally. This seems to have occurred several times until finally the young pastor sought to administer a cure. Taking as his text, one evening, the words, "He that is filthy, let him be filthy still," he told them that they might as well carry on in their evil ways because their punishment was certain anyway. This angered them, but during the service they remained quiet.

After the service he walked about a mile to his place of lodging for the night. He had removed his boots and was about to retire when suddenly there was a pistol shot outside the house followed by another, and another, and bedlam broke loose about the house. He slipped out a back door into the wood lot adjoining the house from which point he watched as with candles they searched the house for him. His horse was loose in the wood lot and the mob could not catch him. Brother Hoehn slept on the ground in the woods all night, and early the next morning saddled his horse and left the community, never to return. It was a cool night in late August and from the exposure he contracted fever and ague from which he suffered greatly during most of the next year. Often he was incapacitated for his work and when he did not reach his appointments the people generally said, "Oh, Brother Hoehn is lying somewhere sick with fever."

During the Summer of 1851 he made several missionary journeys to the new city of Saginaw which was more than a hundred miles from his field of labor. He was the first Evangelical preacher to preach in the city of Saginaw. Practically the entire trip was through woods, there being no roads. In places the mud and water were up to the body of his horse. On one occasion he traveled a whole afternoon and saw only one man, an Indian, dressed in Indian costume, carrying bow and arrows. The Indian seemed to be as unfamiliar with the country as was the young preacher and asked Brother Hoehn to indicate on his fingers how far it was to the next wigwam. The problem of finding a place to stay over night was often serious.

But the German settlers were eager for the gospel and greatly enjoyed hearing the Word of God. However, the missionary could not make Saginaw a regular appointment. He was serving alone on an extended field with 30 appointments and was suffering from fever and ague.

POVERTY AMONG THE SETTLERS

As typical of the poverty of many of these early settlers he tells of a beautiful young German woman who walked two miles to a service

at one of his appointments. It was mid-summer and the heat was intense. As her only garment she had an old cloak wrapped about her. The clothing of her husband and children was threadbare. This young pioneer preacher often stayed with these young settlers, lodging in their unfinished log cabin and dining upon her excellent corn bread, the principal article of diet.

At the end of the year as he was about to say goodbye to these people the man said, "You shall not go empty handed. I have no money but three miles from here there resides an English neighbor. I think I can borrow from him. You must pass their home anyway, so I will go with you there." In spite of vigorous protests the German walked beside the young preacher as he rode his horse three miles over bad roads to the English neighbor. Leaving the minister at the roadside, the German settler went into his neighbor's house returning shortly with a \$2.50 gold piece which he insisted must be accepted as his contribution to the Conference. When the contribution was divided among the ministers at the Conference, Rev. Hoehn received five cents as his portion. In later years it was learned that this German family was prospering very well.

THE SPIRITUALISTS

It is of interest to learn that at that early date he had some trouble with the Spiritualists, (the Klopffeisters). One old Pennsylvania German woman informed him that by the aid of the "*Spirit*" she was learning to write on a slate. She assured him that he could ask the "Spirit" questions and he would write the answers on a slate.

In another home a man and wife both members of our church were carried away with this teaching. Efforts to talk them out of it were in vain.

A WONDERFUL QUARTERLY MEETING

Much has been written about the old time quarterly meeting and many interesting experiences have been handed down. Rev. Hoehn writes of a remarkable quarterly meeting held at Eckford, Calhoun County, in January, 1852. He had closed a protracted meeting at Flatbush on Sunday January 4th, in which there had been a number of conversions and a remarkable spirit had prevailed. The next Sunday was quarterly meeting at Eckford, 50 miles away. Henry Longbrecht, the presiding elder, was reported to be a powerful preacher, and the young pastor urged his people to take this opportunity to hear him. The weather was bitter cold. It would take nearly two days to make the trip, but sleighing was good and the spirit ran high and a number of people decided to go. Wednesday morning they started. Two large farm sleighs were made ready; with straw in the box and

plenty of blankets, they were seated on the bottom of the box. When all were packed in there were two full sleigh loads with a man and wife left for whom there was no room. This couple rode with the young pastor. It was a joyous trip with pleasant fellowship. When about half way they stayed over night with some Evangelical families, some old-fashioned hospitality. The next day they continued the journey arriving in late afternoon. But the presiding elder had not arrived. Supper time, and service time and still he did not appear, nor did he appear for the quarterly meeting at all.

Greatly disappointed and disturbed the young preacher found a text and preached the first evening. The people having just come from a stirring protracted meeting were on fire, and the praises of the people were so loud the preacher had to cease preaching. Again he preached on Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening, and each time the blessing of the Lord came upon the people to a marked degree.

At the close of the Saturday evening service he requested the people to meet one hour before the Sunday morning preaching service for an hour of prayer. On his way to the morning service, from a distance he heard them singing and praising God. He found the church full of people holding a testimony meeting and in a "right spirit."

They were in earnest and the fire of the Holy Spirit was upon them so mightily and they praised God so loudly that it was impossible for him to preach. Finally the meeting quieted down a little, and the preacher arose and said, "I came here to preach, but God himself has preached and I am not needed." Then the meeting broke out with new life again and continued until noon and it was time to close.

In the evening they again met for prayer prior to the preaching service. When the preacher arrived they were all on fire again, and it was with difficulty that he could read his text from Hebrews 12: 22, 24. "Therefore are we come to Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God." He tried to speak but was soon compelled to give up and the singing, praying, and praising God lasted until midnight.

On Monday forenoon he preached and again on Monday evening when there was another "general breaking up." At the close they formed a cross and said a solemn farewell to each other, a scene that he describes as "unforgettably glorious."

The whole meeting was such as he had never seen before and the influence and blessing of the meeting was felt over the entire field of labor. He said it was not a time of unrestrained demonstration, deliberately whipped up by the people, but a time when spiritual tides ran deep and full.

On Tuesday the return trip was begun. Out of that blessed meeting they turned their faces into a snow storm and a bitter cold west wind that swept across the prairies. The sharp snow, driven by a

powerful wind stung their faces until no one could face it unprotected. The passengers in the preacher's sleigh covered their faces with a piece of old carpet. The preacher tied a handkerchief across his own face for protection. Suddenly his sleigh struck a stick buried in the snow; the sleigh pulled apart and the three passengers were deposited unceremoniously on the ground in the storm. In peril of freezing to death they repaired the sleigh and the journey continued. A second time the sleigh broke and was a second time repaired. Finally at the end of the day at an agreed meeting place, they joined their companions in the two farm sleighs who had gone ahead of them and were unaware of their troubles. The next day they completed the journey home, having traveled an hundred miles, been absent from home for a week and enjoyed a remarkable quarterly meeting.

In examining the files of the *Evangelical Messenger* the writer discovered through a report from Henry Longbrecht that his son had died and for that reason he was not able to attend the quarterly meeting. Telephones were unknown, and other means of communication inadequate so the congregation could not be informed.

One could wish it were possible to recapture a measure of the joy, enthusiasm, willingness to sacrifice and spiritual fervor that characterized the people of that day, and release it upon the churches of our own day.

In the annual report of the Ohio Conference Missionary Society in 1852, encouraging progress is indicated on the missions in Michigan. The Adrian Sunday school is especially prosperous though the church debt is a great burden. On the St. Joseph Mission the "desire for the powerful word of life is grand." Several Sunday schools are in prospect on this mission.

In the fall of 1851 the General Conference authorized the organization of the Indiana Conference which now took over the work carried on in Berrien County by the Illinois Conference.

1852

At its session beginning May 12, 1852, under the chairmanship of Bishop Seybert the Ohio Conference ordained John Honecker and Rueben Riegel as elders and Daniel Strohmman as a deacon. These names are mentioned because all rendered service in Michigan. Benjamin Keller, the man who four years later was to establish the work in Detroit, and John Waltz were licensed as probationers.

The statistics reveal the following: Maumee Mission (Perrysburg) 36 conversions, 44 accessions, present membership 129; Ann Arbor 10 conversions, 12 accessions, membership 83; St. Joseph 7 conversions, 1 accession, membership 75.

Shortly after Conference, Bishop Seybert journeyed across Michi-

gan toward Illinois. Due to heavy rains the water was high, many bridges had been destroyed, the roads were almost impassable and traveling was difficult and at times dangerous.

1853

At the Ohio Conference in 1853 the statistical report gave the following concerning Michigan Missions: Maumee, 11 conversions, 14 accessions and present membership of 138; Adrian, 6 conversions, 12 accessions, membership 81; St. Joseph, 3 conversions, 3 accessions, membership 76. J. P. Schnatz, who later established the work at Dearborn, was licensed as a probationer.

Adrian and St. Joseph Missions were united to form Michigan Circuit. The following were stationed to the work in Michigan: Presiding Elder Abraham Dreisbach; Maumee, John Erb; Michigan Circuit, Philip Porr, and John Waltz.

In the Indiana Conference Samuel Dickover was elected presiding elder of the St. Joseph District; John Keiper and M. W. Steffey were appointed to Elkhart Circuit, and John Kronmiller to DeKalb, these charges reaching over into Michigan territory.

Mr. D. Schrager of Three Rivers seems to have been the first Michigan subscriber to the *Evangelical Messenger*, his name appearing in the files for 1854.

1854

The Ohio Conference met in May, 1854, under chairmanship of Bishop Seybert. Christoph Roehm, Rueben Riegel and M. J. Miller were received into the itinerancy.

Statistics affecting Michigan were as follows: Maumee, 23 conversions, 43 accessions and a total membership of 269; Michigan Circuit, 9 conversions, 15 accessions and 160 members. On the Maumee charge there were 2 Sunday schools, 14 teachers and 47 scholars. On Michigan Circuit, 4 schools, 24 teachers and 55 scholars.

The Michigan Circuit was divided and the following appointments made: Presiding Elder Abraham Dreisbach; Maumee, C. A. Munk; Adrian, Benjamin Keller; St. Joseph Circuit, Gottlieb Yung.

Indiana Conference appointments affecting Michigan were: Presiding Elder Samuel Dickover; Elkhart Circuit, M. W. Steffey and Peter Goetz; DeKalb Mission, Andrew Nicolai.

In the *Botschafter*, Rev. B. Keller, who later established the work in Detroit, reports from the Adrian Circuit that the work appears somewhat more encouraging. Quarterly meetings at Lake Pleasant June 24th, at Adrian October 14th, and at Brother Wagner's near Ann Arbor were seasons of refreshing. At the Wagner class especially, the power of God was manifested in a "mighty way," several conversions took place, people were generally revived and a few united

with the church. At Pleasant Lake a protracted meeting was held during the Christmas season with twelve conversions and several accessions.

As typical of the hunger for the Gospel that existed in many communities there appeared in the *Botschafter* early in 1855 an appeal from Andrew Schlenker who lived one mile west of Keelerville (Keeler), Van Buren County. He earnestly requests that some Evangelical minister will come and "break the Bread of Life for which we long with genuine hunger and thirst." He continues "There are ten of us; seven are members of the Evangelical Church. We feel so lonely and forsaken. Only a few miles from us fifty German families have formed a settlement, and this community is also without a minister. This may prove to be a fertile field." He concluded his appeal with "Brethren, please come and visit us. Our hearts, our hands, and our homes are open to you. We will gladly defray all traveling expenses if anyone will consider it worth while to come. Please come over and help us."

1855

The Ohio Conference met in May, 1855 under the chairmanship of Bishop J. Long. L. Scheurerman was ordained elder and J. P. Schnatz, deacon. Elias Loose was voted license as preacher on probation. M. Alsbach and H. T. Strauch were received into the conference. Maumee Circuit was divided and that portion west of the Maumee River attached to Adrian Circuit. Statistics reported Maumee, 22 conversions, 30 accessions, present membership, 165; Adrian, 14 conversions, 25 accessions, membership 91; St. Joseph, 65 conversions, accessions 70, membership 158. Maumee reported two Sunday schools with 12 teachers and 50 scholars; Adrian, 3 schools with 18 teachers and 46 scholars; St. Joseph, 1 school, 7 teachers and 45 scholars.

The Michigan appointments were: Presiding Elder, A. B. Schafer; Adrian Circuit, Aaron Yampert and M. Alsbach; St. Joseph, G. M. Yung.

The Indiana Conference met May 30, 1855, under the chairmanship of Bishop Seybert. The Conference established the Berrien Mission and appointed Bernhardt Ubhaus as its first missionary. Brother Ubhaus was probably the first Evangelical preacher appointed to the Bainbridge Community. His appointment may have been made in response to Brother Schlenker's earnest appeal.

June 17, 1855 the church in John Wagner's class located near Ann Arbor was dedicated.

What is apparently the first camp meeting held by the Evangelical Church on Michigan soil was held at Fisher's Lake, near Park. The meeting opened on Thursday evening, August 23, 1855.

1856

Bishop Long presided over the Ohio Conference which met in May, 1856. Benjamin Keller was ordained elder and Christoph Roehm and M. J. Miller deacons. Carl Deike was licensed as a preacher on probation. Conrad Tramer and Rudolph Spatz were received into the conference. M. Alsbach took credentials to Indiana. Detroit was taken up as a mission.

The following statistics were reported: Adrian, conversions 15, accessions 29, total membership 239; St. Joseph, conversions 5, accessions 5, membership 175; Adrian, reported 3 Sunday schools, 24 teachers and 87 scholars. St. Joseph, 1 Sunday school, 10 teachers and 45 scholars.

The following were stationed to Michigan territory: Presiding Elder, J. G. Zinzer; Maumee, Rudolph Spatz; Adrian, C. A. Munk; Detroit, Benjamin Keller.

At the General Conference in 1855 the St. Joseph Circuit was taken from the Ohio Conference and placed with the St. Joseph District of the Indiana Conference. The Indiana Conference convened June 4, 1856. Berrien Mission reported 36 members. Indiana voted to change to a Fall Conference, and stationed their men for a year and three months, or until September, 1857. The following appointments were made to Michigan territory: Presiding Elder, G. G. Platz; Berrien Mission, John Fuchs and Bernhard Ruh; St. Joseph Circuit, M. Alsbach. During the summer of 1857 a blessed camp meeting was held at Flatbush on the St. Joseph Circuit.

In Detroit, Rev. Benjamin Keller, who had been appointed as the first Evangelical Missionary to this city of 60,000, was having his discouragements.

Under date of December 19, 1856, he writes the *Botschafter* as follows: "The assignment to me, at the last conference session to start missionary activities in this city (Detroit) seemed a most difficult task, because I was conscious of my inefficiency, but was obedient. At once I found a number of families who in Philadelphia, Rochester, N. Y., Canada and other places had been members of the Evangelical Church. They received me kindly and assisted in every way possible. After considerable research we secured permission to use a schoolhouse for Sunday-school purposes, by pledging the sum of \$200.00 as security of damage to the building or equipment. But we were not permitted to conduct our regular services there."

From this report and previous reports we learn that the City Hall was secured for worship services from 9:00 to 10:15 o'clock in the morning and at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. These were the only hours when the hall could be used and were unsuitable. However, in

spite of having to conduct worship services at one hour in one building and Sunday school at another hour in another building and prayer meetings in the homes, they pressed on.

Later they secured the use of a Reformed church, the City Hall not being suitably located for the German people and the hours being inconvenient. Here they conducted Sunday evening services for a period, but the building was large and required a great deal of fuel to warm it. This with rent and light made it too expensive for the small membership with the result that they resorted to having services in private homes. Finally they rented a private home where they met twice on Sundays, also on Wednesday and Friday evenings.

At the time his report was made the Sunday school had an enrollment of between 40 and 45 and the prayer meeting an average attendance of nine.

The first quarterly meeting was held October 25-26, 1856, in the Reformed church, Rev. J. G. Zinzer, presiding elder, being in charge. Apparently in connection with this quarterly meeting the pastor and presiding elder contacted Mr. Albert Cramer and Mr. W. B. Wessen who offered to donate a lot valued at \$600.00 to the congregation for a church, plus a contribution of \$40.00 in building materials on condition that a church edifice would be erected within a stipulated time. The offer was accepted with thanks by the congregation and the conference and efforts begun to secure funds for the building, which was completed by Rev. J. P. Schnatz, successor to Brother Keller.

On opposite side of the state the first Sunday school on Berrien Mission (apparently) was organized April 20, 1856, in Bertrand Township (probably at Portage Prairie) with 23 pupils and six teachers. Among the scholars were those who "could not distinguish one letter from another in the alphabet, but who soon learned to read and eagerly memorized scripture verses." Significantly, the school was closed for "the cold, stormy winter season," November 23, 1856.

Seven appointments are reported in Berrien County at this time, but at only one place were there church members and an organized class. Rev. John Fuchs (not the Rev. J. M. Fuchs of the Michigan Conference) reports having held four protracted meetings and three quarterly meetings, but could not hold quarterly conferences because presumably, there were no quarterly conference members. A revival was begun the latter part of July in the Bainbridge community among the many Germans in the community. The services were held in a very small log church which proved a serious handicap. At the second quarterly meeting in a schoolhouse in the Beil's community a "melting time" was experienced when eleven seekers came to the altar at the first altar call. The fourth quarterly meeting was held in the Rauchen's community in January, 1857. Several older people were

saved. In this meeting a Jew was saved, who after a private interview became so convicted that one evening he leaped up as if struck by lightning, rushed to the altar, weeping violently, and crying for mercy. At the close of the meeting a church building project was undertaken with enthusiasm, one man offering \$200.00 as his contribution.

During this year work was also begun in Niles where no German church existed. Services were conducted in the English Methodist church where a friendly welcome was given and so, slowly but surely, the work was reaching into new centers.

1857

May 14, 1857, the Ohio Conference opened its session under the chairmanship of Bishop Joseph Long.

Joseph Pontius and D. C. Rohland were reported as local probationers. The following statistics were given: Maumee, 21 conversions, 30 accessions, total membership 125; Adrian, 18 conversions, 18 accessions, membership 109; Detroit, 0 conversions, 7 accessions, membership 10. In Sunday schools Adrian reports two schools, 16 teachers, 43 scholars; Detroit, one school, 16 teachers, 36 scholars. Maumee reports no school.

Pontiac and Flint were taken up as a mission to be known as Pontiac Mission. Detroit had its building project under way. Having accepted the site, a committee consisting of B. Keller, T. C. Clewell and J. P. Schnatz were appointed to draft plans for a new building. Later in the session plans were presented as follows: First—"The missionary appointed to Detroit Mission shall be empowered and receive credentials to prove that he is authorized to solicit contributions by cash and pledges for the building of a church.

"In case he can solicit the sum of \$1,500.00 in cash and pledges in and near Detroit, the committee appointed for this purpose may proceed to build a church 38x60 feet, two stories high; the lower story of brick, the upper story of good planed lumber and painted. The lower story to be erected in the shortest possible time; and a home for the missionary to be constructed of rooms at the rear, after the plan decided upon by the committee.

"However, in case the above named sum is not secured, then the building committee is authorized to construct a church 30x40 feet without a home for the preacher as soon as the sum of \$800.00 is secured."

The committee advise the purchase of 20 feet adjoining the lot in case the larger building plan was decided upon.

Rev. G. F. Behner was appointed as solicitor for the project, evidently with the privilege of soliciting anywhere in the Ohio Confer-

ence. The presiding elder of the district and the pastors on Adrian Circuit and the Detroit Mission were appointed a building committee.

And so the work in Detroit is launched. It is still an infant in swaddling clothes, but it will grow. Growing pains may seem at times to threaten its life, but it will grow. Infant progenitor of a great host of Detroit Evangelicals, we greet you and bid you God-speed.

Appointed as pastor of the Detroit Mission in 1857 and finding private homes inadequate for the services, Rev. J. P. Schnatz secured a hall on the corner of Mullett and Rivard Streets for use until the church should be completed. Detroit is growing and now has a population of 65,000, about one-third of whom are Germans with but little of spiritual care. Here is a needy field. Other appointments affecting Michigan made at this session of the Ohio Conference were—Presiding Elder, J. G. Zinzer (he returns a second time); Maumee, Jacob Schafer; Adrian, C. A. Munk; Pontiac Mission—to be supplied. Elias Loose supplied it later in the year.

Under the chairmanship of Bishop Seybert the Indiana Conference opened its session September 23, 1857. Christian Ude was licensed as a preacher on probation. Appointments to Michigan were as follows: Presiding Elder, G. G. Platz; Berrien Circuit, M. Krueger; St. Joseph Circuit and Calhoun Mission, M. Alsbach and one to be supplied.

During the year several reports are made on the progress of the work in Detroit. Shortly after conference Rev. J. P. Schnatz, the new pastor, writes, "Never before in my entire ministry have I been so perplexed." But he is convinced that this is the time for our church to enter this growing city. Business conditions in the city are bad and solicitation is difficult. However, two Presbyterians are on his subscription list for pledges of \$50.00 each. He believes that after the harvest, conditions will improve and Brother Behner, the solicitor, will have better results.

Later on he reports that the owners of the hall at Rivard and Mullett streets had given it over for dancing and our people had withdrawn to a schoolhouse where the seats are low and uncomfortable for adults. In this building the quarterly meeting was held over August 2d. The service was blessed and twenty persons took communion.

During the summer a camp meeting was held near Ann Arbor on the Adrian Circuit. It was the first camp meeting ever held in this community and many in the community had never attended a camp meeting before. A total of ten tents were pitched, good order prevailed and on Saturday nearly a thousand persons attended the meeting. Ten persons were converted and united with the church. Solici-

tation was made for the Detroit Mission and a hearty response was made, \$154.18 being received in cash and pledges from people, in limited circumstances.

The autumn has arrived and the Detroit church is not completed, in fact the cornerstone is not yet laid. The donors of the lot have kindly granted an extension of time. Business conditions are bad. Solicitation is difficult. Otherwise conditions are encouraging. The church membership has doubled, which only serves to emphasize the need for a church. They are now holding their morning service in a Negro Baptist church at 9:00 A. M., an afternoon service in the City Hall at 4:30, and the Sunday school in a public school building. Convenient hours in one location would no doubt make it possible to double their membership in a short time. These are they that come up out of great tribulation.

Beginning Monday, November 2, 1857, the brethren, J. P. Schnatz and Elias Loose, began a journey over the Pontiac Mission. In Pontiac, a beautiful rural village, they found several families sympathetic toward our work and rejoicing that a mission would be opened there.

In Flint they found one of the most beautiful of country towns, a fine moral condition, only a few Germans and the street corners not blocked with saloons as in Detroit. The people were courteous, mostly immigrants from New York state. Here should be a good opportunity for English work.

Fifteen miles west of Flint they found several German families who for some time had conducted prayer services and a Sunday school. Great was their joy in being able to shake hands with these strangers and learn that they were Evangelical ministers. The missionaries made an evening appointment and gathered their crowd by visiting the families within a radius of six miles. The services were held in a beautiful schoolhouse, 30x40 feet, all arranged for church services, including a pulpit and comfortable seats. The crowd was large, the attention good and since not all could understand the German, a brief exhortation was given in English.

Continuing their journey they reached a community that had suffered a complete crop failure. Due to the scarcity of food some families made a stew of the bark of trees, and molasses. Most touching was the story as related by one brother whose children on Saturday night were hungry and had no food. There being no food for the Sabbath day they went to a neighbor but returned empty handed. The family retired with faith that somehow God would provide. The following morning as they were having family prayers a man opened the door and set a bucket of cornmeal in the house. The missionary concludes by saying that this tour was good for him, encouraged his

soul and prompted him to practice stricter economy and greater self-denial.

1858

The Ohio Conference met in annual session May 12, 1858, Bishop Seybert presiding. C. Roehm and M. J. Miller were ordained elders and Conrad Tramer and Rudolph Spatz as deacons. J. M. Haug, Daniel Heininger, and Frederick Zeller were licensed as preachers on probation. Frederick Zeller, Daniel Heininger and Christian Thomas were received into the itinerancy. At this conference the first Michigan district was organized.

It will be of interest to note that at this session the Ohio Conference established missions in Kansas and Missouri, and made them a part of the Michigan district, so that the Michigan district extended to Kansas and Missouri. Rev. M. J. Miller, later a presiding elder in the Michigan Conference, was the first missionary to Kansas.

The following statistics were given: Maumee, conversions 25, accessions 35, membership 148; Adrian, conversions 46, accessions 52, members 143; Detroit, conversions 8, accessions 20, members 26; Pontiac, conversions 17, accessions 18, members 19. Sunday-school report: Maumee, two schools, 8 teachers, 50 scholars; Adrian, three schools, 24 teachers, 50 scholars; Detroit, one school, 13 teachers, 40 scholars. Appointments to Michigan Territory—Presiding Elder, J. G. Zinzer; Maumee, C. Thomas; Adrian, J. Schafer and R. Spatz; Detroit, J. P. Schnatz; Pontiac, Frederick Zeller.

The Indiana Conference of 1858 met under the chairmanship of Bishop Seybert. The following were appointed to Michigan: Presiding Elder, G. G. Platz; St. Joseph Circuit, G. Kloepper; Berrien Circuit, David Koerll; Calhoun, M. Krueger.

Brother Krueger preached in Eckford, Fredonia, at Brother See-ger's, near Springport, in Charlotte, Woodland, and Ionia. He organized societies in Marshall, Fredonia, Woodland, and Ionia during the year.

Brother Schnatz laid the foundation for our work in Dearborn and organized a class in that community. Brother F. Zeller extended the Pontiac Mission as far as Owosso and environs. His principal appointments were Owosso, Flint, Thetford, Goodrichville, and Groveland. There were but few Germans in Pontiac which may account for the fact that the work was not permanently established in that city at that time.

In the southwestern part of the state work was further extended and established more securely. Churches were built at Portage Prairie, and Bainbridge. The former was dedicated by Rev. Joseph Fisher and the latter by Bishop Seybert. At the Bainbridge dedica-

tion a Jewish woman was converted. She continued as a faithful member of the church until her death which occurred at a ripe age.

During the year Simon Fleisher, John Long, and Henry Schultz settled with their families at Lima, Indiana. Bishop Seybert, who knew them in Pennsylvania, followed them and arranged for their spiritual care, Peter Burgenner being sent as their first pastor; thus the Lima church was established. One year later Philip Schwilly and C. Berger, from Pennsylvania, and G. Klein and Jacob Herschey, from Elkhart County, settled in the community and united with the church, and so new doors were opening.

From reports made during the year we note the following: Early in 1858, through the columns of the *Messenger*, Brother Schnatz writes from Detroit, "It is with heartfelt sorrow that I must tell you that we have no church yet and poor prospects too, for building on the '*large plan*' very soon."

Meetings were still being held in the Negro Baptist church at 9:00 A. M. and in the City Hall at 3:30 P. M. Of the gracious hospitality of the Negroes he writes, "These Baptist friends, though they are of the African race have a good church and treat us like Christians. One of them said to me sometime ago: 'We are glad to have you worship in our church, we feel really proud of it.'"

This attitude he contrasts with that of another group who refused them the use of their church basement, saying, "we have to support our own church."

The church membership is increasing, the Sunday school is growing and among its scholars are found "many" children of Roman Catholic parentage. But at last Detroit Mission is to have its greatly longed-for church. Dedication services were announced through the *Messenger*, the date set being August 15, 1858, with Bishop Long officiating, assisted by J. C. Link and C. G. Koch.

1859

The Ohio Conference convened May 12, 1859, under the chairmanship of Bishop Long. C. Thomas and H. T. Strauch were ordained elders, and J. M. Haug as deacon.

The following statistics were reported: Maumee, conversions 13, accessions 22, members 155; Adrian, conversions 25, accessions 56, members 205; Detroit, conversions 7, accessions 17, members 30; Pontiac, conversions 16, accessions 26, members 45. Sunday schools were reported as follows: Adrian, three schools, 13 teachers and 154 scholars; Detroit, one school, 8 teachers and 35 scholars.

Pontiac Mission was renamed North Michigan Mission. Adrian Circuit was divided. Freedom, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti were constituted a circuit, and called Ann Arbor Circuit. Adrian, Blissfield,

Riga and the appointments in Monroe County were called Adrian Circuit. Dearborn was taken up as a mission.

The presiding elder of the district, and the pastors at Detroit and Dearborn were appointed as a building committee for Dearborn Mission. The building committee for the Detroit church reported that a church had been erected during the year with a debt of \$912.00 resting upon the property.

The following were appointed to Michigan charges: Presiding Elder, C. A. Munk; Maumee, J. Rosenberger; Adrian, C. Thomas and E. Loose; Ann Arbor, J. M. Haug; Detroit, C. Tramer; Dearborn, J. P. Schnatz; North Michigan, C. Roehm.

The Indiana Conference met September 7, 1859, under the chairmanship of Bishop John Seybert. Appointments to Michigan were as follows: Presiding Elder, Joseph Fisher; Berrien Circuit, C. Ude; St. Joseph Circuit, P. Burgenner, Calhoun Mission, M. Krueger. M. Alsbach and J. Trometer were ordained elders; C. Ude and J. Paulin as deacons.

Among the reports from the field during the year is one from Nobbs Schoolhouse (near Marcellus) where a two-week protracted meeting resulted in several conversions, one of which was the fiddler for the dances.

Early in the conference year J. P. Schnatz writes that he already has three appointments on Dearborn Mission and that he finds a very good prospect.

Toward the end of the conference year Brother Schnatz reports through the *Messenger* concerning his work—At Dearborn the “main point” on the mission a small church had been erected and at each service was filled with attentive listeners. Some fifteen heads of families had been soundly converted and others were still “mourning” and praying for pardoning grace.

At Ypsilanti, a “beautiful town,” with about sixty families, a society of sixteen had been organized with “flattering” prospects for the future. Evidently a Lutheran church had been used as a meeting place. But shortly an “old, so-called, Lutheran preacher” appeared on the scene and the church was locked against them. They found a commodious schoolhouse available for use. Here were many Germans needing the Gospel.

In Plymouth an appointment was also established. The Lutheran church was opened for our services with “the trustees and elders on the Lord’s side” which, being interpreted, would indicate that they were friendly toward the Evangelical missionary. In the midst of the protracted meeting Brother Schnatz became ill. However, a group of fifteen banded themselves together to hold prayer services. Again “the old Lutheran” man appeared on the scene and the church was

locked. But the elders opened their houses and the English churches offered their churches and the work continued. While the Evangelical missionary in his zeal expressed censure upon the Lutheran minister, one can better understand the situation, if he will try to imagine our feelings, had conditions been reversed. Our condemnation of the Lutheran man should be tempered with a kindly spirit.

A fourth appointment is reported in Wayne "on the plank road." While no conversions are reported, the people are unanimous in their desire that the Evangelical missionary continue preaching for them. His unrelenting adversary, the Lutheran preacher, endeavors to stir up opposition but without success. The meetings are well attended and the people are making their pledges to the missionary budget for the ensuing year.

Occasionally this pioneer missionary feels a bit lonely, out here, on the frontier, and questions the justice of keeping some men on the struggling mission fields year after year while some others are never given a taste of pioneer experience. But he will not murmur. "May God's kingdom come and over all prevail."

From Marshall Mission there were reports that at each of the first three quarterly meetings of the year sinners had been converted and added to the church. Because of the numerous expulsions the net increase in membership will not be great. Yet the mission is in a prosperous condition with over a hundred members. And so these reports from the field serve as tiny windows through which we are able to peer in upon the tireless, impassioned ministry of the Evangelical pioneers in the face of hardship, opposition, discouragement, loneliness, and inadequate support.

1860

May 16, 1860, the Ohio Conference convened under the chairmanship of Bishop Seybert. Jacob Schafer was ordained deacon. Frederick Zeller, Daniel Heininger, John McQuillen, Elias Loose and Carl Deike were ordained deacons. John Meck and E. Boyer were licensed as preachers on probation. Due to family conditions Elias Loose located.

The following statistics were reported: Maumee, accessions 103, members 217; Adrian, accessions 34, members 183; Ann Arbor, accessions 31, members 135; Dearborn, accessions 30, members 66; Detroit, accessions 30, members 66; North Michigan, accessions 4, members 29.

Appointments to Michigan: Presiding Elder, C. A. Munk; Maumee, S. Schwartz and Ed. Boyer; Adrian, Jacob Rosenberger; Ann Arbor, John Waltz; Detroit, C. Tramer; Dearborn, J. M. Haug; North Michigan, C. Roehm and S. Henne.

The Indiana Conference convened September 5, 1860, under the chairmanship of Bishop Long. Berrien Circuit and Calhoun Mission were to be supplied with two preachers each. Martin Speck was licensed as preacher on probation. Appointments to Michigan were as follows: Presiding Elder, Joseph Fisher; Berrien, Bernhard Ruh and M. Gomer; St. Joseph Circuit, Philip Schwilly; Calhoun Mission, C. Ude and M. Speck.

From a comparison of statistics one notes that on the Michigan charges served by the Ohio Conference there has been a net increase in church membership during the year of 232, a percentage gain of more than 50 per cent. The work was growing rapidly.

1861

The Ohio Conference convened in May, 1861, under the chairmanship of Bishop Long. Dearborn Mission was attached to Ann Arbor Circuit. Maumee Circuit was renamed Fulton Circuit. The statistical report was as follows: Maumee, accessions 38, members 200; Ann Arbor, accessions 3, members 78; Adrian, accessions 29, members 150; Detroit, accessions 8, members 34; Dearborn, accessions 20, members 58; North Michigan, accessions 44, members 100. Sunday schools: Maumee, three schools, 25 teachers, 130 scholars; Adrian, one school, 5 teachers, 21 scholars; Detroit, one school, 12 teachers, 60 scholars. Dearborn, no report; North Michigan, one school, 7 teachers, 22 scholars.

During 1859, a number of members of the Evangelical Church in Canada who had settled near Capac, in St. Clair County, wrote Rev. C. Tramer, pastor of Detroit Mission, requesting him to preach for them. He responded to their appeal and made monthly visits for four months. Since the journey had to be made partly by stagecoach and a long distance on foot and the investment of time and money was so great, he arranged with C. Roehm, pastor of the North Michigan Mission, to serve them. At the Ohio Conference session in 1861, Capac was taken up as a mission.

Appointments to Michigan were as follows: Presiding Elder, C. A. Munk; Fulton Circuit, S. Swartz; Adrian, J. J. Kopp; Ann Arbor, C. Deike and J. Frankhauser; Detroit, J. Meck; North Michigan, J. M. Haug; Capac, C. Roehm.

The Indiana Conference convened September 18, 1861, under the chairmanship of Bishop W. W. Orwig. The appointments north of the St. Joseph River were detached from Berrien Circuit and constituted Bainbridge Mission. Calhoun Mission was also divided, with Marshall and environs constituted Calhoun Mission and appointments centering about Ionia constituted Ionia Mission. For the first time statistical information was available from the churches in this

section of the state. We note the following: Berrien Circuit, accessions 20, members 200, churches 3, valued at \$2,300.00, parsonages, 1, value \$300.00, Sunday schools 2, teachers 22, scholars 70; St. Joseph Circuit, accessions 7, members 111, churches 1, value \$550.00, parsonages 1, value \$400.00; Calhoun Mission, accessions 32, members 148, churches 1, value \$500.00, Sunday schools 2, teachers 14, scholars 35. For all Evangelical work in Michigan there is now reported 1,079 church members, 11 Sunday schools with 86 teachers and 351 scholars.

The Indiana Conference made the following appointments to Michigan: Presiding Elder, Joseph Fisher; Berrien, M. Alsbach; St. Joseph Circuit, Philip Schwilly; Bainbridge, Andrew Nicolai; Calhoun, M. Gomer; Ionia, C. Ude.

1862

The Ohio Conference convened May 14, 1862, Bishop Orwig presiding. F. Zeller, J. M. Haug and D. Heininger were ordained to the office of elder and S. Henne to the office of deacon.

Dearborn, Plymouth and Wayne were taken from Ann Arbor Circuit and constituted Dearborn Mission. Capac was renamed St. Clair Mission. The salary standard for unmarried preachers was fixed at \$85.00 for those in the country, and \$135.00 in the cities, besides reasonable traveling expenses.

Appointments to Michigan were as follows: Presiding Elder, D. Strohman; Fulton, S. Hoy; Adrian, F. George; Ann Arbor, George Doll; Dearborn, S. Henne; Detroit, J. Meck; St. Clair, C. Deike; North Michigan, J. M. Haug and supply.

The Indiana Conference convened September 17, 1862, Bishop Long presiding. Bainbridge Mission was again united with Berrien Circuit.

Appointments to Michigan: Presiding Elder, M. W. Steffey; Berrien, Rueben Riegel; St. Joseph, Peter Roth; Calhoun, M. Gomer; Ionia, J. Trometer.

1863

The Ohio Conference convened April 21, 1863, Bishop Long presiding. C. Deike was ordained elder and J. Frankhauser, J. Pontius, D. C. Rohland and J. Borough as deacons. Christoph Beagle was reported as a local probationer. John Storer was licensed as a preacher on probation. J. Borough, J. Pontius and L. Nauman were received into the itinerancy.

Appointments to Michigan: Presiding Elder, Daniel Strohman; Fulton, S. Hoy; Adrian, J. Borough; Ann Arbor, George Doll; Dearborn, S. Henne; Detroit, J. M. Haug; St. Clair, C. Deike; North Michigan, J. Meck and L. Nauman.

Statistics for the year: Fulton, accessions 17, members 188, Sunday schools 3, teachers 20; Adrian, accessions 9, members 141, Sunday schools 1, teachers 10, scholars 30; Ann Arbor, accessions 3, members 89, Sunday schools 2, teachers 16, scholars 54; Dearborn, accessions 10, members 43, Sunday schools 1, teachers 9, scholars 18; Detroit, accessions 10, members 32, Sunday school 1, teachers 10, scholars 60; St. Clair, accessions 22, members 57, Sunday schools 2, teachers 19, scholars 77; North Michigan, accessions 15, members 106, Sunday schools 2, teachers 16, scholars 60.

The Indiana Conference met September 9, 1863, under the chairmanship of Bishop Orwig. Calhoun Mission was renamed Kalamazoo Mission. Ionia Mission shall be supplied with two preachers. Appointments to Michigan: Presiding Elder, M. W. Steffey; Berrien, Rueben Riegel; St. Joseph Circuit, Peter Roth; Kalamazoo, Martin Speck; Ionia, Jacob Trometer, and one to be supplied, John Berger being sent later in the year. The brethren, Trometer and Berger were the first Evangelical ministers to preach in Caledonia Township in Kent County, and Leighton Township in Allegan County, beginning work in these communities during 1863.

1864

At the General Conference held in Buffalo, N. Y., in the fall of 1863, it was ordered that a Michigan Conference should be organized, its boundaries to include all of the state of Michigan, that portion of the state of Ohio lying north of the Maumee River and a narrow strip from the northern edge of the state of Indiana. In 1922 the boundary line was changed to the Ohio-Michigan state line beginning at Lake Erie and running west to "a point intersecting a line running due south on the half mile line west of Werner's Corners to the intersection of the south line of Lucas County and thence east to the Maumee River."

At the Ohio Conference which opened its 25th session May 5, 1864, at Carey, Ohio, under the chairmanship of Bishop Joseph Long, the organization of the Michigan Conference was effected in the following manner:

When the proper time had arrived Bishop Long made the following statement (we quote from the *Jubilee Journal* of the Michigan Conference), "As known the last General Conference authorized the formation of a new annual conference of those fields of labor of the Ohio and Indiana conferences lying within the bounds of the state of Michigan, and as this session comes first, the Indiana Conference not meeting till the fall of the year, it has become our duty to attend to the organization of the new conference here and now. I would therefore request such of the brethren as are willing to unite with the

new conference, or are willing to take an appointment in the same to take seats in the pews in the corner of the church to the right of the pulpit and do hereby request Brother Yost* to preside and to see to it that the said new conference is properly organized.

"The following brethren declared their willingness to unite with the conference or take an appointment within its bounds and took seats in the designated corner (the southwest corner): Daniel Strohmman, on condition that he can return to the Ohio Conference when he sees proper; Jonas Borough, George Doll, C. Roehm, J. M. Fuchs, J. M. Haug; S. Henne, John Meck, Carl Deike, and D. C. Rohland. Then while the Ohio Conference under the presidency of Bishop Long continued its deliberations in the main part of the church, we, in our corner attended to the formation and organization of the new conference. I appointed John Meck to serve as secretary. The conference territory was divided into two presiding elder districts, called Detroit and St. Joseph Districts. The Conference Missionary Society was organized, the Sunday school and Tract Union and such other organizations as pertain to the formation of a properly constituted annual conference. Emmanuel church of Blissfield, Michigan, was appointed as the place for holding the first regular and united conference session, in April, 1865."

The Ohio Conference took the following actions of interest to Michigan: S. Henne and J. Meck were ordained elders; Michael Brumm and J. M. Fuchs were granted license to preach. Peter Wiest and D. C. Rohland were received into the itinerancy.

North Michigan Circuit was divided. The east part, including Flint, Thetford, Richfield, Oregon and Fremont in Tuscola County, Goodrichville and Groveland in Oakland County, Genoa and Cohoctah in Livingston County, was constituted Genesee Mission. The remainder of the charge comprising the appointments, Owosso in Shiawassee County, West Haven in Clinton County, Bennington, DeWitt and Delta in Ingham County, were constituted Owosso Mission. The northern part of Perrysburg Circuit came to the Michigan Conference and was attached to Fulton Circuit.

Action was taken permitting the brethren who were stationed in the Michigan Conference to return to Ohio Conference and claim their usual rights after a period of two years.

The Ohio Conference passed a resolution heartily thanking Mr. M. Brumm for the "liberal" offer of 160 acres of land located in Michigan for an orphan asylum. Acceptance or rejection of the offer was

* Rev. Wm. Yost for many years treasurer of the Parent Missionary Society. Brother Yost supplied this account of the organization of the Michigan Conference for the *Jubilee Journal* in 1914.

left to the newly organized Michigan Conference and nothing appears to have been done about it.

The following appointments were made by the Ohio Conference:

Detroit District: Presiding Elder, D. Strohman; Fulton Circuit, Jonas Borough and D. C. Rohland; Adrian Circuit, George Doll; Ann Arbor Circuit, C. Roehm; Dearborn Mission, J. M. Fuchs; Detroit Mission, J. M. Haug; St. Clair Mission, S. Henne.

St. Joseph District: Presiding Elder, to be supplied; St. Joseph Circuit, to be supplied; Berrien Circuit, to be supplied; Kalamazoo Circuit, to be supplied; Ionia Mission, to be supplied; Owosso Mission, John Meck; Genesee Mission, Carl Deike.

When the Indiana Conference convened September 8, 1864, Bishop Esher presiding, the following were assigned to the places left to be supplied by the Ohio Conference:

St. Joseph District: Presiding Elder, Andrew Nicolai; Berrien, J. Paulin; St. Joseph, Rueben Reigel; Kalamazoo, C. Ude; Ionia, M. Speck; Lima (not included in Ohio appointments), M. Alsbach.

By the Indiana Conference G. Cuttler and John Berger were licensed to preach. A new circuit was formed from the appointments, Lima and Van Buren from St. Joseph Circuit and Brookville and Lake Pleasant from the DeKalb Circuit and called Lima Circuit.

Men from Indiana Conference who were assigned to appointments in the Michigan Conference were granted the privilege of returning to their mother conference at any time before the expiration of four years.

Statistics were not available from either the Ohio or Indiana Conference indicating exactly the numerical strength of this infant conference launched in a great mission field and destined to become a great conference. And so we come to the close of a second period in the history of the work of the Evangelical Church in Michigan. Largely through the leadership and missionary zeal of the Ohio and Indiana Conferences the torch that fell from the faltering hand of Altimos was caught up and carried into Michigan's rapidly growing rural and urban areas. Twenty-three years from the time of Altimos' death the Michigan Conference was organized and launched upon its great ministry. Only the records above can reveal the price that was paid in sacrifice and suffering by the loyal workers who made this fine achievement possible. We record our deep appreciation of their work.

CHAPTER 3

FROM THE ORGANIZATION OF THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE IN 1864 TO 1887

THE PERIOD OF RURAL EXPANSION

The history of the Michigan Conference from the time of its organization in 1864 until the present time (1940) seems rather naturally, to fall into three periods of almost equal length and a fourth period through which we are now moving.

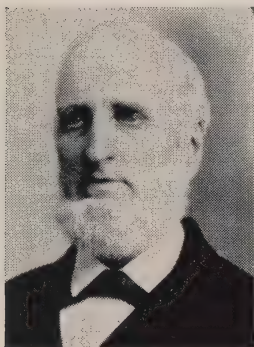
The three periods are each 22 years in length and may be designated as the period of "Rural Missionary Expansion," the period of "Retarded Numerical Progress," and the period of "Urban Missionary Expansion." The period through which we are now passing may come to be known as the period of "Debt Liquidation and Intensive Expansion."

We come now to study the developments during this first period, that of "Rural Missionary Expansion." As a basis for our approach to this study we may find it helpful to examine the statistics reported at the first conference session in 1865. Since no statistics are available for 1864 we must begin our study with 1865, covering the 22 years up to 1887. At the conference session in 1865 the following report was made,—Fourteen itinerant preachers, 16 local preachers, 16 churches valued at \$13,400.00, four parsonages valued at \$2,400.00. There were 14 Sunday schools with 110 officers and teachers, 373 scholars and 727 volumes in the library. There were four catechetical classes and 32 catechumens. The conference reported 1,414 members, a net gain for the year of 176.

The story of the Michigan Conference from the years 1865 to 1887 is a story of rapid and continuous progress. For the first year there is a slight numerical loss, the report for 1866 giving 1,369 full members and 154 probationary members. But from that point the graph shoots rapidly and continually upward, with a net gain for each year, except the year of 1880, reaching the total of 6,911 members in 1887, a net gain of 5,497 and a percentage gain of 387%. The lowest gain in any one year was in 61 and the highest gain was 649 in 1875. There was rapid growth also along other lines, for in 1887 there were 114 Sunday schools with 6,690 scholars. There were 96 churches, a net gain of 80, and 29 parsonages, a net gain of 25.

To understand the reasons for this almost phenomenal growth a number of factors must be considered. This was a time when the rural sections of the state, particularly, were developing at a very

CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE



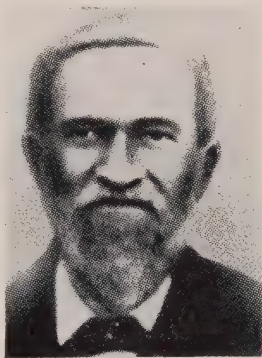
REV. DANIEL STROHMAN
Presiding Elder



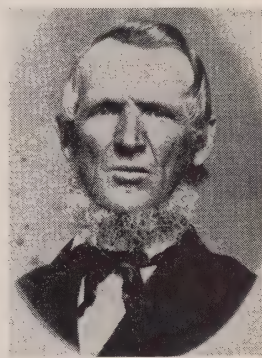
REV. ANDREW NICOLAI
Presiding Elder



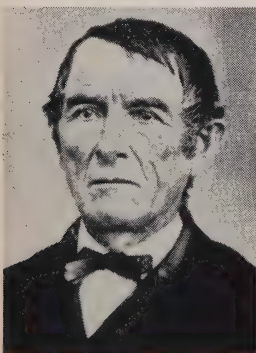
REV. J. M. FUCHS



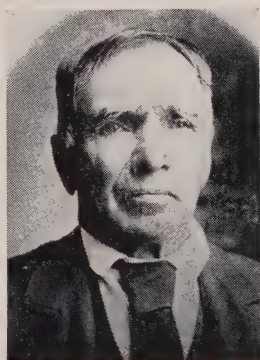
REV. C. UDE



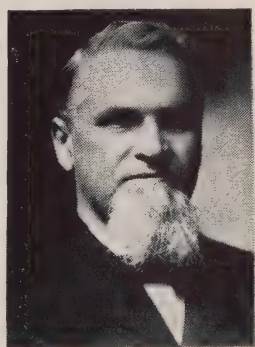
REV. R. RIEGEL



REV. C. ROEHM



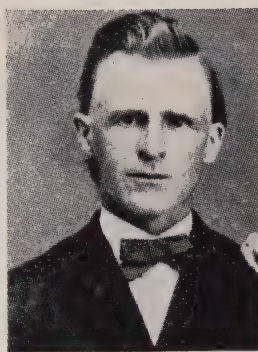
REV. G. DOLL



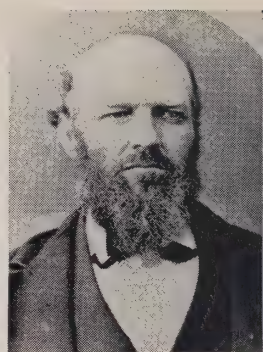
REV. J. M. HAUG



REV. J. BOROUGH



REV. S. HENNE



REV. D. C. ROHLAND

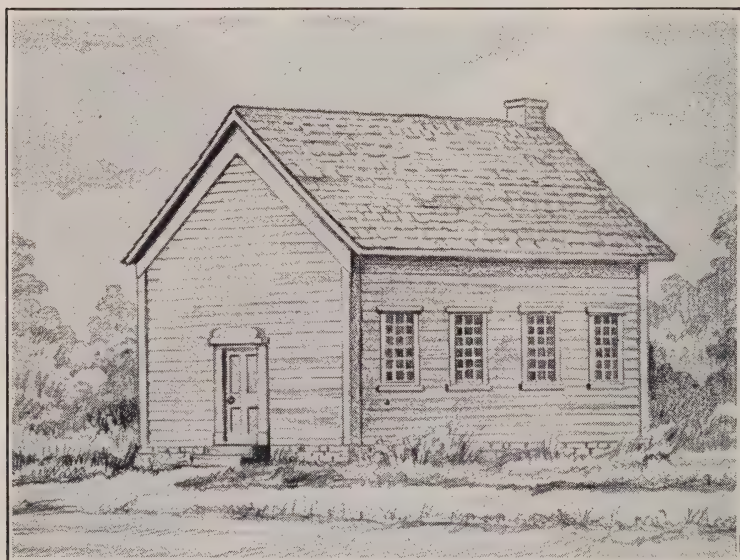
The following were also charter members:

REV. JOHN MECK
REV. M. SPECK

REV. CARL DIEKE
REV. M. ALSBACH

REV. JOSHUA PAULIN

Pictures of these were not available.



THE BEAGLE CHURCH IN WHICH THE FIRST SESSION OF THE MICHIGAN
CONFERENCE WAS HELD IN 1865

rapid rate. Small towns were being established and the cities were growing but the most rapid development was found in the rural areas; as the lumbermen removed the timber, immigrants seeking homes purchased the land, erected modest buildings and proceeded to clear the land for farms.

Some of those that moved into these new communities had belonged to the Evangelical Church in other states and when they settled in Michigan and found no church in their community they very naturally sought the ministry of Evangelical preachers, if they were within reach.

In 1864, through the columns of the *Messenger*, the three sons of Isaac Parker in whose home Bishop John Seybert died, wrote from Muskegon, Michigan, a town of 2,000, requesting that an Evangelical minister be sent to preach for them. Work seems not to have been established there.

In 1872, Mr. Jacob Houk, a former member of the Evangelical church at West Salem, Ohio, having moved to Mason County, Michigan, wrote, through the columns of the *Messenger*, appealing for an Evangelical minister for the Summit community. At the session in 1872 the Michigan Conference responded to this request and sent Rev. S. Heiningner as missionary to this community. He was heartily welcomed and during the year took up appointments in Summit, Riverton, Ludington, Amber and at other points. The present Riverton and Scottville work resulted from this beginning. From Hopkins, Michigan, in September, 1880, came an appeal through the columns of the *Evangelical Messenger* for the services of an Evangelical minister.

What happened in these instances happened in other communities with the result that many churches came into existence in this manner.

Another factor that must be considered is the colonies of German people that settled in many communities offering both a missionary challenge and an opportunity to the Evangelical Church. Many were European Germans while some were from other parts of our own country. Many of them were entirely without spiritual leadership. In other instances the German people were nominally Lutheran but were without adequate pastoral care. Occasionally they became dissatisfied with the moral standards of their religious leaders, some of whom drank freely, often to excess. One Evangelical church was established because the pastor of a German church who frequently drank to excess, undertook to conduct a communion service while in a semi-intoxicated condition. In disgust a substantial group of his people left the church, organized a prayer group, sought the services of an Evangelical minister and organized an Evangelical congregation.

It must be remembered also that the Evangelical ministers of this

period were strongly motivated by evangelistic and missionary fervor. They were mastered by strong conviction, concerning the spiritual needs of men. Sin was a moral and spiritual tragedy. Heaven and hell were more than verbal symbols of human destiny. Sinful men were lost. They should be saved. The Evangelical minister believed himself called and commissioned to bring these lost ones to the Saviour. For them the power of God had been demonstrated in their own conversion experience.

Once a man had sought for weeks at an altar of prayer and had experienced the thrill of forgiveness and a changed life he was under a powerful urge to share it. From such emotional upheavals there flowed rivers of zeal that could not be imprisoned behind walls of religious formality, hardship, sacrifice, weariness, and poverty. "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel," rang in the ears of that host of pioneer preachers, and so they must ever be seeking out the spiritually neglected in these new communities. This was the Lord's work and no price was too great to pay for its successful prosecution. As a result new fields were entered each year and new appointments added to the list of pastoral charges.

An interesting sidelight on the spirit of the men who formed the Michigan Conference comes from the pen of the editor of the *Evangelical Messenger* in 1865. He comments upon the outlook in the Michigan and Canada Conferences, both organized in 1864. He believes that the Canada Conference has the better start but adds,— "But they (the Canada Conference), must bestir themselves if the young and enthusiastic sister of Michigan is not to outstrip her in the race before long. The Michigan brethren are live men and in full earnest. They are not afraid of hardships or self-denial and they have a large and promising field before them. Let them but receive the necessary ministerial reinforcement and they'll shake the kingdom of darkness in the peninsular state."

NEW APPOINTMENTS AND CHURCHES

It will help us to envision the progress made by the conference during this period if we follow the reports of new appointments, missions and pastoral charges established during the years covered in this section. The information recorded here is only partial since complete information is not available in existing documents. But even a partial story will strongly impress us with the missionary zeal of this young conference.

In 1865, Sebewaing and environs was taken up as a mission. It was also ordered that Saginaw be taken up as a mission, and supplied, but this apparently was not done until several years later.

Osceola and Mecosta counties were taken up as a new mission field in 1866. During the same year Rev. J. M. Fuchs organized the class at Hersey.

Adrian was taken up as a new mission in 1867 on the condition that it shall not call for an investment of more than \$50.00 in missionary money. Earlier work in Adrian had been abandoned.

In 1868 it appears that work was undertaken in the city of Monroe. Rev. J. M. Haug established the work in the city of St. Joseph during this year. The work in Adrian was again abandoned after a period of one year.

In 1870 Tawas City and environs was taken up under the name Tawas Mission. Also Hillsdale and the surrounding territory was constituted a new mission field to be known as Litchfield Mission. Another new mission, including Bangor, South Haven and vicinity was established to be known as South Haven Mission.

The Litchfield and Tawas Missions were discontinued in 1871. A number of Evangelical families from Canada settled near Sutton's Bay in Leelenau county. They appealed to Rev. J. Meck, presiding elder of the Flint District, for the services of an Evangelical minister. Rev. E. Weiss was sent to serve them. Conference took up the Grand Traverse "Region" as a mission. A new circuit was formed in Berrien County to be known as Lakeshore Circuit.

In 1872 the Ridgeway, Burnside, and Mason missions were established. Jackson and environs was taken up as a mission. Litchfield and surrounding country was again taken up as a mission field. The Fremont Circuit was divided. The South Haven Mission was merged with Bainbridge. As an indication of some of the circuits at this time Rev. S. Heininger writes from the Sebewaing charge that he and his colleague, Rev. J. Dietrich, had thirteen appointments, eight German appointments and five English. In two years the mission had grown from 55 members to 115. With 116 members, 114 of our Church publications were taken.

At the conference session in 1873, Adrian was again taken up as a mission. From Litchfield, Rev. J. Paulin wrote that three new appointments had been added to his charge, making a total of four. A report from the Marshall charge indicated that it included Eckford, Marshall, Ceresco, Eaton Rapids, Duck Lake and another point, an extensive field. In January it was reported that a class of ten members had been organized at Port Creek, where the first Evangelical class in Michigan had been formed by Altimos in 1838.

In 1874 the Sanilac Mission was formed.

The year of 1875 records important action, in the formation of several circuits and missions. Oregon and Marcellus Circuits were newly formed. The Lansing Mission was formed, including appoint-

ments at DeWitt, Delhi, Genoa and Cohoctah. The Maple Hill, Fremont, and Traverse Bay and Leelenau Missions were also established.

The Howell and Cass City Missions were established in 1876. New classes were organized on Traverse Bay Mission, and on the Saginaw Mission. Fremont Mission (Tuscola County) was discontinued.

The Ypsilanti Mission was formed in 1877.

Considerable activity was apparent in 1878, in the formation of the LaSalle, Burnside, Forrestville, Lexington, Greenbush, Springport, and Isabella Missions. Bay City was taken up as a new mission. A congregation with a new church building was reported six miles west of Capac. The formation of the new missions represented the rearrangement of existing appointments with new appointments and indicated a substantial degree of expansion. From Jackson Mission, Rev. J. W. Loose reported three new appointments taken up since conference, one located four miles north of Jackson where a meeting had resulted in 40 conversions, 30 accessions and in "every house becoming a house of prayer."

Nothing outstanding is recorded for 1879.

In 1880 West Branch and surrounding territory was taken up as a mission. Two new appointments were taken up on the Greenbush Mission.

The Maple Grove Mission was formed in 1881.

In 1882 Grand Rapids was taken up as a mission, Grand Rapids First Church being established that year.

With a view to meeting the missionary challenge of the northern part of the state the North Michigan District with three pastoral charges, Petoskey, Traverse Bay, and Leelenau was organized in 1882. Rev. F. Mueller, one of the missionary minded leaders of the conference was elected presiding elder by the conference and stationed on this district. It was thought that he would be able to devote most of his time to the development of new missions in the northland. Brother Mueller commented that his territory extended as far north as Lake Superior. But the venture seems not to have been highly successful, partly because funds for missionary work were lacking, and gradually the district was enlarged by the addition of established charges. However, during a period of four years, six new churches and four parsonages were erected on this district.

In 1883 Rives and Inlay Circuits and Bristol, Mt. Pleasant and Marlette Missions were formed. Manistee and surrounding territory was taken up as Manistee Mission. At Detroit the old church building at Hastings and Montcalm was sold and a new church erected at Dubois and Catherine.

Byron, Cass City, Minden and Frankfort Missions were formed in 1884, largely from existing appointments and prospective territory.

Three Rivers was taken up as a new mission field. The Riverton charge was reported as having eight appointments, four of which had been taken up within a little more than a year.

Reed City, Hersey and Bad Axe Missions were formed in 1885. Charlesworth, Colon, and Scottville Missions were organized in 1886. At the same session of the conference, Hart and the surrounding territory was taken up as a mission where three preaching places were established and others in prospect. Gladwin and environs was also taken up as a mission field.

During this year Rev. W. A. Koehler, pastor of the Woodland Charge, began services in Nashville. As a result of a revival in the town hall, lasting eight weeks, with 140 seekers, a class of 38 was organized. A few months later a new church was dedicated.

Also, a class was organized in the village of Clarion, near Petoskey.

At the session of 1887 the conference discontinued the Gladwin Mission and sold the church at Ceresco. It was deemed impractical to establish a new mission in "North Detroit" as requested by the Detroit Quarterly Conference.

Greenville and environs was taken up as a new mission to be known as Greenville Mission. From North Bradley in Midland County, Mr. John Felix requested that an Evangelical minister be sent to serve the community. Three new appointments were taken up on the Eureka Mission and two new classes organized during the year. The Carson City Mission was reported as extending over three counties.

These items, rather sketchily put together, will serve as windows through which we can look in upon a young conference throbbing with missionary zeal and passion. The whole land lay before them and they purposed to enter it.

CHURCHES, PARSONAGES, AND DEBTS

And now we turn to trace something of the progress made in the erection of church buildings and the troublesome debts that often resulted from building projects. Let it be remembered that at the beginning of this period (1865) there were but 16 church edifices and four parsonages in the conference and that there were already debt problems at Detroit and Owosso. Most of the appointments in the infant conference were in schoolhouses, private homes, or halls. As congregations became more securely established, new church buildings followed of necessity.

In 1865 permission was given to collect for the churches in Detroit and on Owosso Mission. A new church was erected on Owosso Mission in 1866, J. M. Fuchs being pastor. The conference in 1867 ordered the presiding elder of the St. Joseph District to collect \$150.00

from his district to liquidate the debt on the Woodland Church. At the same session, committees were appointed to supervise the erection of new churches at St. Joseph, Sebawaing, and Flint.

In 1868 a lot for a church site was purchased in Flint and for both Flint and St. Joseph the conference appointed new building committees. During the year new churches were built at Cohoctah in Livingston County, and Fremont in Tuscola County, at moderate cost.

At the conference session in 1869, it was reported that a Mr. Platsher had offered the Hersey congregation two lots and sufficient lumber for the erection of a frame church provided the building was erected within two years. The presiding elder, pastor, and Henry Bittner were appointed as a committee to consider the offer. One year later, conference granted permission to solicit for the project. But two years later (1871) the committee reported it inadvisable to accept the offer.

During 1869 new churches were erected at St. Joseph and Flint, creating for the conference its first real debt problem. St. Joseph church cost \$2,643.39 and the congregation was left with a debt of \$473.32. The Flint church dedicated by Bishop Dubs March 7, 1869 cost \$6,566.16 and was left with a debt of \$1,967.36. At Flint \$1,700 was raised on the day of dedication.

October 31, 1869 a new church was dedicated at Riga. November 25th of the same year the Park church was dedicated, the building having cost \$4,500.00.

During 1870, new churches were dedicated: January 1st at Whitehouse, January 9th at Ida, and on the same date at Delta, Ohio.

At the session of 1871, the conference was troubled about the debts, at Flint and St. Joseph; the pastors of these missions were ordered to collect for these debts wherever possible. It was ordered that each presiding elder and each pastor in the conference should collect \$25.00 and each assistant pastor should collect \$10.00 for the Flint church, to be paid to the pastor by October 1st. The conference ordered the sale of the Adrian church, the proceeds to be loaned to the Flint church until such time as it might again be needed at Adrian. However, the trustees of the Adrian church refused to obey the conference order.

The conference at the 1872 session was evidently treated to something of a surprise when Mr. Henry Bittner appeared before the conference body and announced that a church had been erected at Hersey at a cost of \$3,000.00. Mr. Bittner proposed,—1st, That the conference assume this obligation; 2nd, That he would be responsible for \$1,500.00 of the amount to be raised by the congregation and the community; 3rd, That he would give the conference three years to

discharge its obligation, the loan to carry 7% interest; 4th, If the conference does not wish to accept the building on these terms, it should be released from further obligation in the matter. Bishop Esher, John Meck, and L. Scheuerman were appointed a committee to examine the property and act for the conference. The property appears to have been accepted and the building dedicated May 19, 1872.

The Flint debt totaling \$1,621.76 and the St. Joseph debt, now increased to \$546.49, received further attention, committees being appointed to assist each church in reducing its debt.

August 11th, the Leighton church was dedicated by Rev. Wm. Yost. October 27th a church 2½ miles west of Wauseon was dedicated by Bishop Dubs. November 16th, a church on the Amboy Circuit (Clay or Salem), was dedicated. The Marcellus church was dedicated December 29th, by Rev. Jacob Hartzler. During the year a new parsonage was erected on the Sebewaing Charge.

Again in 1873 the conference faced its staggering debt. The Flint debt had increased to \$1,757.00, the St. Joseph debt was reduced to \$450.00, a debt of \$350.00 remained upon the Ridgeway church, which with the \$1,500.00 remaining on the Hersey church, this property having been accepted by the conference, brought the grand total to \$4,057.00. In the face of this overwhelming obligation, the conference decided to elect its first collector for conference debts and chose Rev. S. Heininger for this position. Seriously he went to work and before the end of the year had the full amount covered in pledges, most of which was duly paid.

The following new churches were dedicated during the year: Marcellus, January 9, 1873, by Rev. Jacob Hartzler; LaSalle, January 23, 1873; Colon, February 9, 1873, by Rev. Jacob Hartzler and Ceresco November 13, 1873, also by Hartzler, who was editor of the *Evangelical Messenger*. At Whitehouse a new parsonage was erected during the year.

The East Raisenville church was dedicated January 18, 1874. Bishop Esher dedicated the Lockport church of the Park Circuit December 23rd. This gave the Park Circuit four, comparatively new churches, within five miles of the Park church and parsonage. Statistics given at the conference session of 1875 reported 53 churches and 20 parsonages, an increase of 37 churches and 16 parsonages in ten years.

The year of 1876 was launched with the dedication of the Emmanuel church on the West Unity Charge, January 2d. A church was dedicated in Litchfield, November 12, 1876 and another at Ellis Corners, November 19th. During the year three churches were dedicated on Owosso Circuit and several were reported in process of erection on the Sebewaing Charge.

The conference at the 1877 session was still wrestling with debt. The committee on Church Extension reported that \$701.58 had been received and paid out during the year. An indebtedness of \$420.00 still rested on the St. Joseph church and Hersey was burdened with a debt of \$1,042.00.

Again in 1878 the conference debt is a troublesome factor. The St. Joseph debt has increased by 20 cents during the year. The Hersey debt has grown to \$1,101.54. The conference debt had been further increased by a district house erected by Brother Meck on the Flint district. Only \$143.00 had been collected toward the cost. After occupying the house for some time, Brother Meck decided to reside elsewhere and requested conference to take the property off his hands at the cost price. Reluctantly conference responded to his request increasing the debt by \$915.81, bringing the total conference debt to \$2,437.55. To assist in liquidating this debt and to aid congregations in building churches a Church Extension Society was organized. Each traveling preacher was required to collect from his charge or pay from his own pocket \$10.00 annually to this new conference auxiliary. This society has rendered an important service to the conference.

From Marcellus came the report that the congregation was greatly burdened by a debt of several hundred dollars of long standing.

To meet the growing demands upon the Church Extension Society the conference, at its 1880 session, ordered that each minister shall collect 15 cents per member from his field for the Church Extension Society and each presiding elder shall pay \$20.00 into this treasury.

On the Fulton Circuit, Bishop Bowman dedicated a church near the city of Wauseon, January 4, 1880. In June of the same year, Bishop Bowman dedicated a church on the Ludington Mission which was reported as the first rural church in Mason County. The cornerstone was laid for the North Maple Grove church and the Trout Creek church was remodeled and reopened.

In 1881, conference ordered each minister to raise 10 cents per member for the Church Extension Society and each presiding elder to pay \$10.00 to this fund.

In the Fall of 1883, a new church was completed in Carleton and \$1,600.00 in pledges secured toward the South Rockwood church.

December 30, 1883, Bishop Bowman dedicated the Petoskey church which had been completed at a cost of \$1,300.00. On the first Sunday of 1884, the Summit church, Riverton Charge was dedicated, Bishop Bowman officiating.

Again in 1885 the conference was confronted with troublesome debts. The Detroit congregation had relocated at Dubois and Catharine. On the new church erected there was remaining a debt of

\$2,091.60, with \$455.55 secured in pledges against it. The pastor was ordered to continue canvassing the city for pledges.

At Grand Rapids a new church had been erected but a debt of \$1,793.34 remained. The pastor was to continue collecting to liquidate the debt.

The Jackson church had a debt of \$672.28. The pastors at Riverton and Frankfort were granted permission to collect for the Eden and Kasson churches.

A new church was authorized for Three Rivers.

South Rockwood launched the new year of 1886 by dedicating their new church January 10th. Bishop Dubs officiated. The cost of the building was \$3,415.00 of which Ex-Senator Strong had contributed \$1,000.00 plus the lot and C. H. Buhl of Detroit had contributed the pews at a cost of \$206.00.

Bishop Dubs also dedicated churches at Woodland and Nashville the same day, September 12th, and at Bainbridge, October 17th. At Forestville a church costing \$1,200.00 was dedicated November 14th by Rev. C. C. Staffeld.

The pastors at Detroit and Grand Rapids were instructed to put forth special efforts to collect for their church debts in their respective cities. The pastor on Marshall Mission was authorized to collect on St. Joseph district to liquidate the debt of \$321.00 still resting on the Marshall church.

The Mooretown congregation dedicated their church March 13, 1887, Rev. C. C. Staffeld officiating. Brother Staffeld also officiated at the dedication of the Scottville church July 10th. In close succession Bishop Bowman dedicated three churches, at Portage Prairie November 13th, at Kilmanagh November 27th, and at Vicksburg December 5th. A church purchased, and rebuilt, was dedicated at Caro December 25, 1887. At Marcellus, Rev. S. P. Spreng officiated at a reopening service.

Debt problems still perplexed the conference and at its 1887 session, the pastors on Marshall and Jackson missions were ordered to collect on their own fields for the debts on their respective churches. The Detroit and Grand Rapids pastors were to collect in their cities for their church debts. Lexington was permitted to collect on Monroe district for money to complete their church. The Ceresco church was ordered sold and the proceeds used to secure a parsonage for the Marshall Mission. Interest on the Flint debt was cancelled for two years.

And so we come to the close of this period of 22 years deeply impressed by the achievements of this small group of devoted servants of the Lord. They have added 80 new churches and 25 parsonages to the conference holdings. The value of their church properties has

been increased by \$152,350.00, an average annual increase of almost \$7,000.00. They have added \$20,275.00 to their parsonage values and their church membership has increased 387%.

It is significant that at the end of this period the Michigan Conference stood seventh in size among the 24 conferences of the denomination.

During this period the first district convention for ministers was ordered in 1869, each minister in active service in the conference being required to attend. For more than 50 years these district meetings were held annually and made an important contribution to the spiritual and intellectual culture of the ministers of the conference.

The first district Sunday-school conventions were ordered by the conference in 1873.

What was probably the first Woman's Missionary Society in the conference was organized at Ionia in 1884.

The Conference Supervising Committee, which functioned for many years in the establishment of new missions and the erection of churches and parsonages was ordered by the conference in 1885.

The first break in the ministerial ranks of the conference as the result of death occurred in 1874 when Rev. T. N. Davis, a promising young man, was stricken.

In 1873 the Michigan Conference voted to enter the North Western College campact and elected Rev. J. M. Haug as its first member of the trustee board of Northwestern College, and Union Biblical Institute. As early as 1865 the conference had been invited to join the Pittsburgh Conference in founding an institution of higher education, but declined because of its limited numerical and financial resources.

In 1864 Mr. M. Brumm offered 160 acres of land located in Michigan for the founding of an orphan asylum. The denomination referred the matter to the Michigan Conference. The young conference felt itself unable to undertake the project and the offer was not accepted.

Indicative of the missionary spirit that prevailed among many of the laymen of the conference, Rev. Wm. Yost, field secretary for the General Missionary Society, reports a visit to Portage Prairie in June, 1872, when he was pleasantly surprised to receive a check for \$500.00 for the missionary cause from Mr. David Rough. Five years later, July 28, 1878, he visited the field again and was given a check for \$500.00 from Anna Rough, widow of David Rough. Her daughter, unable to attend the missionary service because of illness in the family, waited in the shade of a tree beside the road until the missionary secretary passed by and gave him a contribution of \$50.00.

This was a period when many camp meetings and bush meetings were held as a summer evangelistic agency throughout the conference. Local churches and groups of churches in various localities assumed responsibility for conducting these services. Among the places where such meetings were held are Lima, Park, Marshall, Constantine, Wauseon, West Unity, Owosso, Bangor, Delhi, Richfield. In many other communities similar meetings were held.

Indicative of the good accomplished in these meetings is the report that at the Marshall camp in 1873, seventy-five young people arose and thereby testified that they had peace with God. At the camp near Flint, the same year there were more than fifty seekers. Thirty experienced a "change of heart" and thirty-nine united with the church.

The chief evangelistic agency during this period was the protracted meeting, later known more commonly as the revival. An examination of the reports and records of this period indicates to what a marked degree the protracted meeting accounts for the phenomenal success of the period. The following reports will tell of a few of these evangelistic triumphs: The first protracted meeting held on the Summit appointment, of the Mason Mission in 1872 under the ministry of Rev. S. Heininger resulted in nearly 50 conversions and 32 accessions. The interest became community-wide. Night after night the schoolhouse was literally packed. Yet many pushed their way to the altar and sought pardon, others fell at their seats in earnest prayer. Some wept in penitence while others shouted for joy. The hour preceding the service each evening was set aside to pray with seeking souls and to give them the desired assistance.

In 1876 from the Saginaw District, J. M. Haug reported eighty conversions on Maple Hill Mission. Fifty from Sebewaing, nearly fifty from Ionia and some great meetings.

From Monroe Circuit in 1886 reports were made of protracted meetings beginning November 1st and closing March 10th. Six appointments were reached and 170 converts reported.

During the same year Rev. W. A. Koehler began preaching in Nashville. A protracted meeting held in the town hall resulted in 140 conversions. The entire town was stirred until dance halls and skating rinks closed, card parties were broken up, and many decks of cards burned, while the religious life of the entire town was affected. The meeting was protracted for eight weeks.

From Portage Prairie, Jackson, Petoskey and many other parts of the state come reports of sweeping protracted meetings that reached hundreds for Christ and were instrumental in establishing the church securely in these communities.

Many hardships were faced by the circuit riders of this period. Salary standards were low, the average salary in 1877 being \$392.82.

Many of the people were poor and occasional crop failures added to the distress. Due to crop failure in 1884, three appointments on the Eureka Charge did not contribute a dollar to pastor's salary during the year.

Traveling conditions were generally difficult. From Ionia to the Osceola Mission at the time this mission was established, the ministers traveled as far as 14 miles without passing a house. The only roads were lumber roads that branched off in various directions and were difficult to follow. It is reported that Brother A. Nicolai lost his way in this section and was compelled to spend the night in the woods. Howling wolves frightened his horse which broke loose and ran away. The next morning he had to search for his horse before he could proceed on his journey. Particularly through the northern part of the state were conditions of travel difficult during this period.

In recognizing the splendid achievements of this period, one must not overlook the splendid men who gave leadership to the work. Among the older men we find such men as M. J. Miller, Andrew Nicolai, John Meck, J. H. Keeler, J. M. Fuchs, F. Mueller, J. M. Haug, C. Ude, S. Coply, C. Roehm and others who stood as able, courageous and heroic leaders, pastors and presiding elders. With vision, zeal, and spiritual passion they sought out new fields and eagerly entered open doors.

Toward the close of the period we find a fine group of young men in the ministerial ranks. Rev. H. B. Hartzler visited the conference at its session in 1887. From his report on that visit we quote the following: "One of the first impressions made upon me by the conference was, that it is a body of men who 'mean business'—who are conscious of having a work to do and mean to do it. I could not fail to observe also, that there is a marked preponderance of the younger element coming to the front—the warmth of young blood and the push of youthful, aggressive energy. By young men I do not mean boys, but men on the hither side of forty-five."

We have only to scan the conference roll to catch the significance of that observation. Here was a fine group of young men, well launched on their ministry. Here was George Johnson later a brilliant and capable secretary-treasurer of the General Missionary Society. Here was Charles Krueger a man of marked ability and great promise who was to be cut down while his star was moving toward its zenith. Here was F. C. Berger, later to be a presiding elder, and for twelve years general secretary of the Sunday school and Christian Endeavor movement of the entire denomination.

Here was G. A. Hettler, powerful pulpiteer, who would serve the conference as a presiding elder for 28 years, an all time record for the Michigan Conference. Here were the three Frye brothers of whom

Jacob, a man of shrewd business judgment, would serve the conference for 20 years as presiding elder.

Here was W. A. Koehler, later a presiding elder, and an able leader, whose personal magnetism brought him a host of friends.

Here was Samuel Heininger who had already attained prominence and wide influence in the denomination as field secretary of the General Missionary Society.

Here were the Scheurer brothers, Adam and Peter, who would hold prominent positions in the conference for many years.

Here was F. J. Klump, later a presiding elder, and one of the ablest Christian statesmen the conference has produced.

Here was C. C. Staffeld, a presiding elder, a prominent leader for many years, and a man whose gifts to the conference would total several thousands of dollars.

Here were Henry Schneider and J. G. Haller, men of marked ability.

Here were J. W. Loose and A. Halmhuber, able men of the very highest devotion to Christ and the church.

Here was a group of young men who would write their names high on the pages of Michigan Conference history. God has called them out of the churches of the conference during the period we have been studying to places of important leadership. Evangelicals will hear more of them in the years that lie ahead.

CHAPTER 4

THE PERIOD OF RETARDED NUMERICAL PROGRESS

1887 — 1909

For the twenty-two years between 1887 and 1909 the Michigan Conference, was marking time. Beginning the period with a membership of 6,911 in 1887 it closed the period with a membership of 8,015, a net gain for the period, of 1,104, a percentage gain of approximately 15%.* Compared with the numerical progress of the previous period this was a period of comparative numerical stagnation.

In accounting for this relatively small gain several factors must be considered. One important factor was the language question. In many communities the work had begun through the use of the German language. Often the transition to English was unwisely, and occasionally unfortunately, delayed. The work had been established by the German people; it was their money that had built the church, purchased the equipment and for many years paid the bills. Many of them did not understand the English well and some found it impossible to participate in English services. To them it seemed rank injustice to change to a language that would, in effect, rob them of the precious religious privileges that they had enjoyed for so many years. Some refused to believe that there was no future for the German language in America. Some stubbornly insisted on their rights.

The problem was often complicated by the fact that many of the ministers could not use the English language effectively. So certain were they that the German language would be in use indefinitely that they made no effort to prepare themselves for the use of English. When the time arrived that the use of English was imperative, they found themselves greatly handicapped. Many made heroic efforts that were pathetically ludicrous. The result was more often amusing than inspiring. One good German pastor, asked to return thanks in the home of a parishioner began by saying, "Oh, Lord, we thank thee that we can set on this table." For the moment the young people present forgot to be thankful.

But the young people in these German congregations had their problems also. Their training in the schools was in the English.

* It should be pointed out that conference statistics during this period do not always harmonize. Pastors did not always use the same membership figure for the beginning of the conference year as was given at the close of the previous year. For the entire conference there were at times discrepancies approximating as much as 200 between the number of members reported at the end of one year and the figure used as the starting point for next year's statistics.

Their associates all used the English. In their homes their parents addressed them in German but often they replied in English. Frequently they married into English families. The result was that where the Evangelical church failed to make provision for English services hundreds of these young people went to English speaking churches in these communities.

In one Michigan community in which there is an Evangelical church and three congregations of another denomination in close proximity an aged lady told the writer recently that had the Evangelical church turned to English at the proper time none of the three other churches would have come into existence. The language problems did much to retard the progress of the conference during this period.

Another factor of major importance in retarding the progress of the conference during this period was the church trouble in the denomination resulting in division in 1891. Michigan was not as seriously affected as were some other sections of the church, the only congregations seriously affected being Bay City and Reed City. While the actual loss in members who left as a result of the trouble was not so large, there can be no doubt but that the unrest and suspicion, the accusations and counter accusations, the extensive publicity given the controversy through the church press, and the prolonged litigation following the division did much to unsettle the members of the churches and very seriously handicapped the progress of the conference. Energies that should have been devoted to missionary and evangelistic labors were diverted into controversial channels. Some turned away in disgust from an unseemly spectacle.

A third important factor affecting conference progress was the trend from the rural sections toward the cities. In the earlier years the Evangelical Church had shown a preference for the rural areas, often to the neglect of the towns and cities. On two occasions in 1902, Bishop Bowman called to dedicate churches in Michigan, laments the fact that our people had not awakened earlier to the importance of locating in the towns. He cites West Unity where we had rural churches on both sides of the town, but nothing in the village. Before we built in town we had lost a number of fine people. He mentions Lenox also where for many years our church was located in the country and where we lost people who moved into the village. These are illustrations of what happened in many places.

As the cities, where the Evangelical church was not represented, developed industrially and farmers retired to town where we had no churches, the churches of our conference suffered losses. That we suffered rather heavy numerical losses during this period of transition cannot be questioned.

While the numerical progress of the conference during this period was unimpressive, there was development along other lines. In 1888 the Conference Fire Insurance Society was organized. In 1902 the Conference Branch W. M. S. was organized at Beulah Park. In 1891 the Conference Branch Young People's Alliance was organized. Two of the permanent assembly grounds of the conference, Riverside Park and Albright Park, were established during this period. Several large missionary gifts were reported during this period of which \$1,000.00 to the General Missionary Society in 1899 by David Beyers of the Lima Charge; \$1,000.00 to the same organization in 1902 by Jacob and Elizabeth Thurner of Blissfield, and \$5,000.00 to the same organization in 1906 by C. C. Staffeld were the most outstanding.

Several new fields were established and a large number of new churches and parsonages erected during this period as the details given later will indicate. Due to the unusual development in church building it was a period of constant struggle with missionary and church extension finances. Year after year the conference was literally deluged with requests from local churches for aid in the form of loans or gifts. In many instances generosity outran the dictates of sound business judgment. Indeed, it seems quite impossible to handcuff missionary passion with cold-blooded business principles.

In numerous instances the conference continued to give assistance when the treasury was empty with the result that both Missionary and Church Extension debts accumulated.

In 1897 the debt in the Missionary Society had reached nearly \$6,000.00. Alarmed at the magnitude of the debt, the conference appointed Rev. C. C. Staffeld as collector (the second collector in the history of the conference). At the 1898 session of the conference, he reported \$7,416.72 collected in cash and pledges. In making his report to the conference in 1898, Brother Staffeld exhorted the conference to more careful "housekeeping," urging that the annual appropriations should not exceed the receipts.

Toward the close of this period the conference began its movement toward the rapidly growing industrial centers of the state.

A sidelight on the trend of thought during this period is found in the call made February 12, 1895, "for a convention for the advancement of Scientific and Religious Thought and the proposal to organize a Society composed of ministers of the Michigan Conference for the 'intellectual and religious development of its members' by means of special lines of study to be 'assigned to various members either in the field of theology, science, history, archæology, etc.'" The call was signed by the Reverends G. J. Kirn, F. Klump, J. A. Frye, H. T. Strauch, and J. S. Steininger. Apparently the society was not organized.

We turn now to a summary of the achievements recorded each year in new fields established and new churches erected. We will also give some attention to appeals for aid from local churches.

NEW FIELDS ENTERED

1888. Vicksburg Mission and Royalton Circuit were formed. Buchanan and environs and Alpena and surrounding territory were ordered taken up as missions, Alpena to be supplied if possible. North Bradley was also taken up as a mission. Ypsilanti and Ridgeway were discontinued. Twenty-seven missions were receiving conference aid.
1889. New missions were formed to be known as Mt. Pleasant, Fisher Station and Whittaker Missions.
1890. Nashville and environs were established as Nashville Mission. Rev. A. Halmhuber was given permission to collect on Monroe District for a new mission in Detroit. From thirteen churches he collected \$533.59. Detroit had a population of 205,000.
1891. Conference ordered that West Detroit should be taken up as a mission to be served from Dearborn, that Port Huron should be taken up as a mission to be served with Ridgeway, and that Ludington should be taken up as a mission and be supplied. Alpena and Carson City Missions were discontinued, Bay City Mission became a station and Cleon Mission, formerly Manistee was renamed Pomona Mission.
1892. A mission was established in *Benton Harbor to be served from St. Joseph. Dexter, Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor were constituted Ann Arbor Mission. South Grand Rapids was joined with Fisher Station Mission and Ludington was attached to Scottville. The Midland and Beaverton appointments were attached to North Bradley. Verona Mission and Elkton Circuit were formed. A small class was organized at Gibraltar during the year.
1893. A committee was appointed to protect conference interests in the Bay City controversy. Lansing Mission was renamed Rives Mission with Charlesworth added. Conference was requested to establish a new mission in North-east Detroit. Three hundred dollars was voted toward the project and the presiding elder of the district offered to contribute \$100.00 toward the mission.
1894. No items of major importance are recorded.
1895. Caro, Fairgrove, and Fremont were constituted Caro Mission and Leelenau Circuit was formed. Detroit Mission was made a station and Litchfield was discontinued. West Detroit was taken up as a mission to be known as West Fort St. Mission.
1896. Shelby and Crystal Lake were constituted Shelby Mission. A new mission in Detroit to be known as East Gratiot Avenue Mission, was ordered, the mission to be attached to First church. Conference voted \$200.00 toward the purchase of two lots on condition that \$300.00 was raised from other sources. Scottville and Ridgeway Missions were discontinued.
1897. Oregon Circuit and Good Harbor Mission were formed. North Bradley and Rives Missions were discontinued, the appointments from the latter field to be attached to Jackson.
1898. Steps were taken to locate an English Mission in Detroit. Lexington Mission was discontinued.
1899. A new class of 33 members was organized on the Pomona Charge. Horton Bay and Bear Lake appointments were constituted Horton Bay Mission; East Geneva and West Geneva churches were constituted Coleman

* It was not until 1904 that the work in Benton Harbor was permanently established.

Mission; Byron Mission was renamed Fowlerville and Greenwood was renamed Lenox.

1900. Chesaning and environs were constituted Chesaning Mission and Leroy was constituted a mission.

1901-02. Several circuits and missions were reorganized but no new work of importance seems to have been undertaken.

1903. A class of 19 members was organized in the Riley Community, Gladwin County. The Kilmanagh Mission was formed; Avery Mission was discontinued and Manchester and Chelsea merged with Washtenaw Mission.

1904. Benton Harbor was again taken up as a mission to be served with St. Joseph.

1905. Buchanan was made a station; Eureka and Blissfield, circuits, and Owosso, a mission. Niles was taken up as a mission and Manchester was ordered taken up as an appointment if possible. The city of Monroe was taken up as a mission to be known as the Young People's Alliance Mission. It was the first mission sponsored by the Young People's organization in the conference. The Detroit churches were renamed, First, Waterman and Kirby.

1906. New missions were authorized for Southeastern Grand Rapids and Mack Avenue, Detroit. Work was begun in Boyne City, a new class of 26 members was organized in the Johnson schoolhouse (Hersey Charge), a new church built at West Greenwood and consideration given a new mission in Pontiac.

1907-08. Plans for the purchase of an assembly ground and the establishing of an old people's home near Owosso were given consideration in 1907.

1909. Pigeon was building a new church. The Saginaw and Bay City churches were ordered served together, both churches being very weak.

CHURCH DEBTS AND NEW CHURCHES

We now turn to the consideration of church debts and new churches. It was a period when many churches were being built and debt problems were often perplexing.

1888. During the year of 1888 we have a record of ten churches dedicated within the conference territory. Bishop Bowman alone dedicated six that year as follows: South Maple Grove, January 15th; Caledonia, January —; Holt, May 27th; Keswick, September 30th; South Royalton, October 21st; and Buchanan, November 11th. Bishop Bowman reported that he had dedicated five churches on the St. Joseph District between November, 1887, and November, 1888. Other churches dedicated in Michigan during 1888 were: Fremont (Tuscola County), September 9th; Silver Lake, September 29th; Elkton, November 4th; and Strasburg, November 25th; the latter being dedicated by Rev. S. P. Spreng.

Several churches of the conference sought financial aid. Detroit was granted an extension of a \$500.00 loan without interest. Jackson was granted a loan of \$600.00 without interest to assist in rebuilding their church; Holt, Carleton, Litchfield, and Fremont (Tuscola County) were not granted the aid they requested. Erie and Scottville also made requests for aid.

Byron built a new parsonage and Bangor sold their old parsonage. Kilmanagh was granted permission to sell their old church. The St. Joseph church was reported to be in a very dilapidated condition and a committee was appointed to take steps to correct the condition.

In order to satisfy two mortgages held against the Grand Rapids church conference voted to use all available funds and borrow an additional amount to make possible a loan of \$1,116.00 to this church. An existing loan of

\$500.00 was continued another year without interest. Conference was becoming concerned about its debt situation.

1889. During the year new churches were dedicated at Riverton (Marble appointment), March 3, 1889, by Bishop Dubs, and at Whittaker, December 22d, by Rev. S. P. Spreng.

Bay City reported plans for a new church and the enlarging of the parsonage. Conference made a grant of \$500.00 to Bay City for the enlargement of their parsonage. Scottville was granted aid for the building of a parsonage and Buchanan reported having secured a new parsonage. Leelenau, Scottville, Petoskey, Vicksburg, and Grand Rapids were granted financial aid on church debts.

1890. For the year of 1890 we have the report of four church dedications: Fisher Station, March 3d; Verona, October 19th, by Bishop Bowman; Schultz, December 14th, by Bishop Bowman, and Cloverdale, December 21st, by Rev. S. P. Spreng.

Rev. A. Halmhuber reported having collected \$254.05 in the city of Detroit for the Detroit church debt. Conference granted Traverse City aid on their parsonage debt. To Whittaker, Litchfield, Marshall, Riverton, Carleton, and Manistee aid was granted on church debts or for new buildings.

1891. In 1891 the dedication of nine churches is reported as follows: Turk Lake, June 7th; Whitehouse, September 20th, by Rev. C. C. Staffeld; Berne, September 27th, by Bishop Bowman; Ida, September 27, 1891, by Rev. S. Heininger; West Bangor, September 20th, by Rev. J. A. Frye; Blissfield, November 29th, by Rev. S. Heininger; Eureka, November 29th, by Bishop Bowman, and Kaiser's Class (Eureka), November 29th, by Bishop Bowman, and Leroy, November 29th, by Rev. S. P. Spreng.

Conference authorized the sale of the Beagle church and a loan of \$100.00 to the Blissfield congregation as aid toward their new church building. In a postponed action conference voted to donate \$200.00 to be paid after one year to the new mission under consideration in Detroit.

Because of Church Extension funds being exhausted conference was compelled to refuse aid to eight other fields asking for assistance on existing debts or new buildings. The pastors were requested not to encourage our people to ask for assistance in every undertaking.

1892. We have the record of four dedications for 1892. East Fulton (Eureka), January 17th, by S. P. Spreng; East Geneva (North Bradley), November 20th, by S. P. Spreng; Capac, November 13th, by Bishop Horn, and St. Joseph, December 11th, by Rev. S. P. Spreng.

The West Detroit Mission reported the purchase of a building site. A committee was appointed by conference to draw plans for a chapel. The mission was to be served from First church. Permission to solicit for the mission on Flint District was not granted.

Jackson was granted a donation of \$100.00, on a request for \$953. Cloverdale was given a donation of \$50.00 and Schultz \$100.00 on a request for \$400.00. Grants of \$50.00 to Saginaw on debt and \$100.00 to Grand Rapids were made. Leroy was refused aid on church debt.

1893. Two dedications are reported for 1893. South Royalton, January 15th, by S. P. Spreng, and Sebawaing, date not given.

A lot for a church and parsonage was purchased in Wauseon. The Midland congregation requested \$200.00 to assist in erecting a chapel. The pastor and presiding elder were requested to solicit in Midland for that amount.

Donations of \$50.00 to Leroy and \$50.00 to Saginaw were made. St. Joseph with a new and substantial building requested a donation of \$400.00 on a debt of \$600.00. One hundred dollars on principal was granted.

Detroit requested aid in launching a new mission in Northeast Detroit. Conference voted to borrow \$300.00 and make it available for this purpose.

Union church (Mt. Pleasant) and Pomona asked donations of \$100.00 for new buildings but were refused. Cloverdale and Schultz were refused assistance on church debts and Maple Hill was not granted assistance on the erection of a parsonage.

1894. Four dedications are reported for 1894. Chippewa (Mt. Pleasant charge), April 1, 1894, by F. Klump; East Riverton, June 10, 1894, by A. A. Scheurer; Leighton, October 14, 1894, by F. Klump.

Port Creek church, exact date uncertain, but sometime during the latter part of 1893 or early part of 1894.

Permission to sell the Flat Bush church was granted. The Holt church was sold and the purchase of a lot in Lansing authorized. The Emmanuels and Ridge churches were sold and the proceeds applied on the Sebewaing debt. The net result was *four* old churches sold and *four* new churches dedicated during the year.

Maple Hill reported the purchase of a parsonage with a remaining debt of \$270.00. Whittaker was given a donation of \$100.00 toward a new parsonage. St. Joseph and Leroy received grants of \$100.00 to apply on church debts. Buckhorn (Arden) received \$150.00 for the same purpose. Schultz received a donation of \$100.00 toward a debt of \$538.00 on condition that they raise an equal amount.

1895. For the year 1895 five dedications are reported.

Traverse City, January 20th, by Bishop Bowman; St. Paul's (Riverton); January 27th, by Peter Scheurer; Huron, June 9th, by J. A. Frye; Rives, September 1, by W. A. Koehler; Wauseon, September 15th, by Bishop Bowman.

The old church at Leighton was sold. The Eckford church was moved into the village.

The lots held at Trombley and the Boulevard, Detroit, were sold and the proceeds used to purchase lots and erect a church at West Detroit. The conference made a donation of \$300.00 toward the debt on the West Detroit church and also granted the congregation the privilege of mortgaging their property for \$1,000.00 to secure the balance of the debt.

The Maple City parsonage was ordered sold. The Grand Rapids pastor was requested to collect in the city for the church debt. Notes for \$100.00 and \$600.00 against the Eden and Jackson churches, respectively, were cancelled. The following donations to churches on debts were: Leroy, Huron, Maple City, and Saginaw, each \$100.00. Traverse City received a grant for \$200.00 and permission to mortgage their church. Schultz received a donation of \$400.00 to be paid in four annual installments.

1896. Two dedications reported in 1896. Pomona, March, 1896, by H. Mattill; South Sylvania (Silica), October 18th, by Bishop Breyfogel. Conference ordered the Bethel church, Wauseon, sold and a new church built. New parsonages were built at Sebewaing and St. Joseph during the year. Loans on church debts were made as follows: Traverse City, \$100.00; St. Joseph, \$300.00; Leroy, \$100.00, and to Whittaker, \$114.00 on condition that they raise \$134.00 within three months. Appeals for aid from Saginaw, Horton's Bay, Fairgrove and Sylvania were not granted.

A new plan for the erection of parsonages on missions was approved as follows: "The local church shall secure one-third of the cost in cash or pledges and the conference will make annual appropriations equal to the rental value of the parsonage until the remaining debt is paid."

1897. It is of interest that we find no record of a church dedication in the conference for the year of 1897.

Permission was granted to sell the old Royalton church and pay the debt on the new church. Marshall and Marcellus were given permission to mortgage their parsonages to secure debts. Kalamo, on the Nashville Circuit, was given permission to mortgage their church to secure money to complete the building. The action of the Silica church in mortgaging their church to secure balance of debt was approved.

Loans were granted as follows: West Detroit, \$300.00, for four years without interest; Grand Rapids, \$100.00; Leroy, \$100.00 for four years without interest; Horton Bay, \$100.00; Fairgrove, \$50.00; Verona, \$80.00 for four years without interest.

Requests for loans from Saginaw and Traverse City were not granted and pastors ordered to collect for their debts. The request from East Geneva was also refused. Conference voted to pay the interest on \$200.00 of the St. Joseph debt.

1898. The year of 1898 records a great deal of activity in church building. Eight dedications are reported and one reopening. We note the following: Epsilon, June 19th, by J. A. Frye; Horton Bay, July 24th, by Bishop Breyfogel; Washington Center (Eureka), September 4th, by S. P. Spreng; Kasson, September 25th, by J. A. Frye; Bingham, October 2d, by J. A. Frye; Cohoctah, October 2d, by Bishop Breyfogel; Exeter, November 20th, by W. A. Koehler; another church on the Petoskey Circuit but unnamed.

The Reed City church was extensively remodeled and a reopening conducted by Bishop Breyfogel, July 31, 1898.

The Charlesworth church was ordered sold. Authority to sell the Pinora church and apply the proceeds on the Leroy debt was granted. Whitehouse was given permission to sell the old parsonage and build new on condition that the balance of the necessary funds be raised on the field.

The request from West Detroit for a loan for \$550.00 to build a chapel as an addition to their church was not granted.

The supervising committee for the East Detroit Mission petitioned for a continuation of the loan of \$300.00 granted a year previous. Their request was granted on condition that the committee solicit \$300.00 in cash and pledges before work on the project is begun.

Loans on church debts in the amounts of \$55.00 and \$100.00 respectively, were granted East Geneva and Leroy.

1899. Two church dedications and a rededication are reported for 1899.

Elkton, September 10th, by Bishop Bowman; Sunfield, December 10th, by J. A. Frye; Flint (First), rededicated, November 26th, by Bishop Breyfogel. Authority to sell the Hartman church (Wauseon) was granted.

West Detroit, burdened with a debt of \$1,387.75 not including debt on the parsonage, was granted a loan of \$300.00. Additional loans were granted as follows: St. Joseph, \$200.00; Leroy, \$50.00; Bingham, \$50.00, and Flint (on improvements), \$300.00. East Kasson requested a loan of \$77.00 which was not granted.

1900. Two church dedications are reported for 1900: Fremont, January 14, 1900, by Bishop Breyfogel; Linkville, September 30th, by Christian Staebler.

Conference ordered the sale of the Pinora church, the proceeds to be applied on the Reed City property, and the sale of the Joy church, the proceeds to apply on the Petoskey parsonage.

The Maple City parsonage was sold for \$200.00, \$125.00 being applied on Leelenau debt and \$75.00 on a new parsonage.

Loans were granted as follows: Bay City, \$75.00; Bingham, \$50.00; Sunfield, \$50.00; Grand Rapids, \$50.00. The loan of \$350.00 to Leroy was extended and the loan of \$300.00 to St. Joseph extended for four years.

1901. Four dedications are reported for 1901. Grand River chapel, July 21st, by Bishop Bowman; Linkville (Soldan appointment), October 4th, by C. Staebler; West Unity, December 8th, by Bishop Bowman; Millburg, December 22d, by J. H. Lamb.

The cornerstone of the Lenox church was laid September 15, 1901, by Peter Scheurer.

Permission to sell the Litchfield church was granted, the proceeds to be divided between Millburg and St. Joseph.

Permission to sell the Emmanuel church, West Unity, and apply the proceeds on a new church in town was granted. Owosso was reported as planning to sell their property and build a new church.

West Detroit, with a debt of \$1,796.00, was given a loan of \$75.00 to apply on interest. The English Mission (Grand River, Detroit) was granted a loan of \$300.00 for four years.

New loans of \$100.00 each to West Unity, Coleman, and Pomona, and \$50.00 to Bingham were granted. The extension of old loans to Verona, Leroy, Fairgrove, Traverse City, Grand Rapids, and Horton Bay was granted.

1902. Three dedications are reported for 1902: Lenox, January 5, 1902, by Bishop Bowman; Wexford, June 29th, by George Johnson; Scottville, October 5th, by Bishop Bowman. The West Riverton church was remodeled and rededicated December 7, 1902, by Bishop Bowman.

Lenox was granted the permission to sell the old church lot and apply the proceeds on the new church debt and to tear down the old parsonage and use the material in the erection of a new parsonage. The Forestville parsonage was ordered sold. Flint was granted permission to purchase a house and lot adjoining their property. Petoskey was granted permission to mortgage for \$225.00 and use the proceeds on parsonage debt.

New loans of \$300.00 to West Unity and \$175.00 to Lenox were granted. Loans were refused to Greenwood and Millburg. Loans to Leroy, and Horton Bay were extended. Conference voted to pay interest on \$300.00 of Windsor debt, \$75.00 on interest on West Detroit debt and \$200.00 on the Kirby Avenue lot.

1903. Two new churches were dedicated during 1903: Mays Prairie (Lansing Mission), August 30, 1903, by Bishop Horn; Hope (Coleman), December 27th, by F. C. Berger; the Flint church was remodeled and reopened November 1st, by S. P. Spreng; the Nashville church was also enlarged, the rededication being in charge of Bishop Breyfogel.

New parsonages were reported at Cloverdale, Lenox and Whittaker, the latter with a debt of \$400.00. A new parsonage was also secured at Chesaning, the conference assuming \$525.00 of the \$800.00 debt. The Forestville parsonage was reported sold. The Keeler church property was sold for \$115.00.

Loans were granted to Flint for \$300.00, Lenox for \$125.00, and Caro for \$300.00. Caro was granted permission to sell their property and use the proceeds toward a new church. The West Detroit loan of \$300.00 was extended.

A request from West Geneva for a loan of \$100.00 was refused, but a donation of church furniture was made instead.

1904. One new church was dedicated during this year, the Smith Creek church (Gladwin), November 20, 1904, by Bishop Bowman. Cornerstones were laid at Benton Harbor, October 30, 1904, by S. P. Spreng, and at Caro, November 18, 1904, by Bishop Bowman. Conference voted the Smith Creek church the Colon church furniture. A new parsonage was purchased at Cass City.

Carleton was granted a loan of \$250.00 on parsonage debt. A donation of \$11.25 was made toward the Lenox parsonage interest. The Lenox loan of \$350.00 was extended four years.

1905. Reports on five dedications and one reopening are available for 1905: February 19th, Benton Harbor, by Bishop Horn; June 11th, Buel, by Peter Scheurer; October 22d, Boyne City, by S. P. Spreng; December 10th, Caro, by S. P. Spreng; December 17th, Owosso, by Bishop Horn. August 13th, the Dearborn church was reopened after having been remodeled. Rev. F. Klump conducted the reopening services.

The Salem church, Wauseon, was ordered sold. New loans were granted as follows: Detroit (First), \$175.00; Buel, \$100.00; Owosso, \$300.00. The Pomona, West Unity, and Grand Rapids loans were extended.

Pigeon was permitted to mortgage their parsonage in process of erection. Conference voted \$415.58 to reimburse the presiding elder for lot purchased as a building site for Benton Harbor church. Interest of \$11.25 was ordered paid on Lenox debt.

1906. Five dedications, a reopening and a cornerstone laying are reported for 1906. The dedications reported were: Howell, September 23d, by Bishop Breyfogel; Niles, October 14th, by J. H. Lamb; West Greenwood, October 7th, by F. Klump; Manchester, November 25th, by S. P. Spreng; Castle-ton, October 14th, by G. A. Hettler. The Howell cornerstone was laid June 3, 1906, by Rev. C. Staebler. The Hersey reopening occurred December 16, 1906, in charge of Rev. G. A. Hettler.

The sale of the old Caro church, the proceeds to apply on new church debt, and sale of the Riga church, the proceeds to apply on the Blissfield church debt was authorized.

The Conference Church Extension Society found itself holding notes amounting to \$4,620.00, of which \$2,755.00 are past due. Action was taken that all future loans to congregations are to be made on condition that 5% on the principal will be paid annually.

A proposal to build a \$15,000.00 Memorial church in Detroit on the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of work in that city was considered by the conference. Approval of the project was given on condition that funds are secured for the project before the work is begun.

The Kirby Mission was granted permission to sell their property and build a new church at Grand River and Kirby.

The conference voted to purchase a site at Mack Avenue and Van Dyke, Detroit, at a cost of \$1,900.00. The erection of a chapel at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00 was approved.

The conference assumed one-half of the Waterman Avenue debt amounting to \$850.00 and cancelled notes for that amount.

New loans were granted as follows: Boyne City, \$300.00; Benton Harbor, \$300.00; Ionia, \$300.00 on fine new parsonage; Monroe, \$300.00 for new church, and Scottville, \$300.00 on parsonage.

The loans to Lenox, St. Joseph, Kirby, and West Unity were extended.

Plans for the Niles building project at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.00 were approved.

Requests for loans by the Orr class (Coleman), Hope (Coleman), and Greenwood could not be granted.

1907. Three dedications are recorded for 1907: Mack, February 17th, by Bishop Bowman; Kirby, April 28th, L. H. Seager; Coleman, December 29th, by G. A. Hettler. Carleton was not granted permission to sell their church and parsonage. Sale of the Bennington church was approved, the proceeds to apply on the Owosso church and parsonage. Wauseon was given permission to use \$150.00 of proceeds from sale of Salem church on Wauseon church and parsonage.

The request of Detroit (First) church for conference aid in relocating at St. Aubin and Sherman was not approved unless \$10,000.00 can be secured before the project is undertaken.

Conference assumed \$3,365.00 of the debt on the new Mack Avenue church.

Mortgages of \$1,000.00 each were approved for the Seybert and Niles churches.

A new loan of \$50.00 was granted to Saginaw. Interest on the Benton Harbor loan was waved. Interest on the Hope church debt was assumed and a request from Gladwin for aid was refused. The Flint loan was extended.

1908. For 1908 we find two dedications: Grand Rapids (Second), February 16th, by Bishop Spreng; Brady (Chesaning), July 26th, by Rev. F. Klump. Four reopenings are reported: Waterman Avenue, January 26th, by Bishop Breyfogel; Grand Rapids (First), August 16th, by L. H. Seager; Sebewaing, October 25th, by G. Heinmiller; Blissfield, November 8th, by J. R. Niergarth.

The conference declared itself as unwilling in the future to cancel any obligation owed by a local church. A new rule was passed requiring payment of 10% annually on the principal of all loans to local churches. Pastors were urged to collect funds and meet the requirement annually.

The request of Detroit (First) church for a loan of \$10,000.00 was not granted.

The Mack Avenue church property was deeded to the local trustee board. An itemized statement on the total cost of the building was requested at the earliest possible date.

In response to the request of the Second church, Grand Rapids, that the conference assume \$3,500.00 of the debt resulting from the erection of their new church conference assumed the interest on that amount for two years.

New loans were granted to Manchester, Petoskey, Whittaker, Smith Creek and Niles. Carleton, Caro, and Waterman were granted extensions on existing loans. West Greenwood was granted permission to mortgage their property.

1909. One dedication is reported for this year, that of the Pigeon church, October 24th, in charge of Bishop Spreng.

Reopenings occurred at Detroit (First) church January 3d and at the Lebanon church March 9th.

The Sebewa church was ordered sold. Grand Rapids (Second) built a parsonage for \$1,815.00, requesting the conference to accept it as conference property and to make an annual appropriation of \$150.00 to apply on the debt. The request was granted.

Mortgages were approved on the parsonage at Benton Harbor and the First church, Detroit. Detroit (First) church was granted a loan of \$300.00 for use in remodeling their parsonage. Loans were granted to Manchester, Coleman (Salem church), Pigeon, and Seybert churches. St. Joseph was

excused from paying the 10% due on the principal of their loan. Conference agreed to pay \$34.25 interest on Grand Rapids (Second) church debt.

The new plan for supervising committees shall be the presiding elder, pastor from the nearest field, and two laymen chosen by the presiding elder.

It is of interest to note that eighty new churches were dedicated during this period of twenty-two years, an average of nearly four per year. The largest number in one year was 1888 with ten. The year of 1891 records nine dedications and 1898 reports eight. The year of 1897 is the only year in this period when no dedications are reported.

EVANGELISM

During this period the protracted meeting, later more generally spoken of as the "revival" was the principal method of evangelism. It was customary for nearly every church in the conference to devote a period annually to protracted or revival meetings. During this period several pastors in the conference with unusual evangelistic ability were at the height of their success. Mention may be made of F. C. Berger, A. Ostroth, Warren Brown, W. A. Koehler, Peter Scheurer, and E. M. Renner. Others probably deserve recognition also.

We sketch briefly the outstanding meetings reported during these years, giving the name of the pastor, the field and the number of conversions reported. These reports are taken from the *Messenger*.

1888. J. W. Loose, Park, 34; E. M. Renner, Charlesworth and Holt, 60; A. Ostroth, Riverton, 52.

1889. J. A. Swenk, Olmstead appt., 45; L. Brumm, Reed City, 40; W. Berge, Bainbridge, 70; J. J. Schuknect, Mill Creek, 34.

1890. Riverton, with 70 conversions is the only outstanding meeting reported during this year.

1891. N. Wunderlich, Washtenaw, 32; J. Snyder, West Unity, 40; F. C. Berger, Park, 125 conversions and 100 accessions; A. Ostroth, Eureka, 16 weeks of meetings, 200 conversions, 100 accessions, and 33 baptisms with above 1,500 people present for the baptismal service; W. Kring, Nashville, 63.

1892. C. S. Brown, East Gilead, 55; W. H. Wagner, Fulton Circuit, 46 conversions, 33 accessions; A. Ostroth, Eureka (12 weeks of meeting), 92.

1893. No report.

1894. George Johnson, Buchanan, 90 conversions, 50 accessions; P. Scheurer, Riverton, 140 conversions, 90 accessions and 126 members of Young People's Society; Mt. Pleasant, 40; A. Ostroth, Whittaker, 110 conversions, 53 accessions; H. Fuerstenau, Break 'O Day, 53 conversions, 42 accessions; Pomona, 50; W. A. Bulgrin, Imlay City, 35; G. Koehler, Erie, 41 conversions, 31 accessions.

1895. J. M. Bittner, Sebawaing, 40; L. V. Soldan, Vicksburg, 56 conversions, 24 accessions; A. M. Haddix, Scottville, 33 conversions, 27 accessions; A. Ostroth, Whittaker, 75 conversions, 14 accessions; W. Brown, Petoskey (Wood school), 40; W. C. Swenk, Caro, 80.

1896. J. R. Niergarth, Kalamo (Nashville), 71; W. Brown, Horton Bay, 80 conversions, 46 accessions; J. M. Bittner, Sebawaing, 70 conversions, 46 accessions; W. C. Swenk, Caro, 190 conversions resulting from 15 weeks of meeting.

1897. W. C. Swenk, Caro, 37 conversions, 17 accessions.
1898. J. R. Niergarth, St. Joseph, 33; I. H. Ewing, Paradise (Whitehouse), 31 conversions, 32 accessions; J. J. Schuknecht, Flint, 58 accessions; J. S. Swenk, Coleman, 50 conversions, 20 accessions; E. M. Renner, Exeter, 38.
1899. J. A. Swenk, Silica, 34; E. M. Renner, Seybert, 30; H. C. Fuerstenau, 40; P. H. Pohly, Caro, 48; W. F. Kring and W. L. Martin, Wauseon, 60 conversions, 42 accessions, Pomona 30.
1900. A. Frye, Blissfield, 34; J. H. Keeler, Lima, 38; A. Ostroth, Fremont, 60; Flint, 42, and from the Elkton camp meeting, 42 conversions were reported.
1901. S. C. Croff, North Bay, 54; E. M. Renner, Arden, 52.
1902. E. M. Renner, Royalton, 64 conversions and 59 accessions; W. B. Oldt, Epsilon and Petoskey, 120 conversions and 70 accessions; A. Ostroth, Portage Prairie, 45; P. H. Pohly, Waterman, 30; O. P. Schleicher, Whiteford, 40; J. M. Nyce, Blissfield, 59; D. O. Ruth, Traverse City, 35.
1903. V. Buxton, Riley, 30; F. H. Bailey, Eureka, 53; J. M. Nyce, Blissfield, 41; F. W. Dill, Saginaw, 37; C. H. Howe, Horton Bay, 42; F. H. Bayles, Epsilon, 40.
1904. W. R. Currier, St. Joseph, 43; J. F. Staebler, Kilmanagh, 30; G. Koehler, Sebewaing, 35; P. H. Pohly, Waterman (in three years), 100 conversions, 80 accessions; B. Mohr, Leelenau, 31.
1905. R. N. Holsaple, Traverse City, 31; H. I. Voelker, Nashville, 43; N. Frye, Pigeon, 40; E. Rath, Riverton, 35; J. R. Niergarth, 39.
1906. W. R. Currier, Ionia, 53; N. Frye, Pigeon, 50; G. Heximer, Kilmanagh, 31.
1907. J. F. Kirn, Leighton, 50; E. C. Braun, Oregon, 50; E. A. Perone and W. H. Watson, Gladwin, 136 conversions and 87 accessions. J. S. Deabler, Benton Harbor, 46.
1908. No report available.
1909. H. I. Voelker, Buchanan, 52; Charles Richards, Fremont, 68; E. A. Perone, Horton Bay, 50; F. E. Armstrong, Petoskey, 45; W. L. Martin, Monroe, 70.

This brings us to the close of the study for this period of twenty-two years, a period in which the graph looks much like the teeth in a saw, the years recording net gains being only slightly in excess of the years recording net losses. However, in spite of the relatively small numerical progress, the history of this period does record some very outstanding achievements. Had it not been for some very serious handicaps it is probable that the numerical progress would have been very marked.

CHAPTER 5

A PERIOD OF URBAN MISSIONARY EXPANSION

1909 — 1931

We now enter upon a new period of conference expansion. The statistics for 1909 showed a net loss of 181 for that conference year. For a period of twenty-two years the graph had wavered—one year up, the next year down. With 1910 the tide turned and for 18 years the graph runs steadily, often sharply, upward, each year recording a net gain. For one year, 1928, the graph dips downward, recording a net loss of 141. With 1929 it turns sharply upward and continues its upward trend to the end of the twenty-two-year period, in 1931.

In the terms of statistics 1909 records 7,768 members in the churches of the conference. The report for 1931 showed a membership of 12,649, a net gain of 4,881. The largest gain for one year was 655 in 1921, with 1914 a close second, reporting a net gain of 626. The lowest net gain in any year of this period, was 1926, with a gain of but 18.

In Sunday-school enrollment the graph made a decided climb upward. In 1909 the enrollment was reported at 12,000. Sharply the enrollment began to climb. By 1923 it had reached 23,143. The peak was reached at 23,566 in 1926. From that high point it receded to 21,668 in 1931.

This was a period of rapid industrial development and the cities were growing at an amazing rate. Alert to the challenge and opportunity of the growing cities the leaders of the conference fostered an aggressive missionary program. This policy of expansion placed a tremendous strain upon the financial resources of the conference. However, imbued with courage and confidence the conference undertook to enter these open doors.

The following important congregations were established during this period. The name of the church and the year it was established are indicated:

* Saginaw and Pontiac (Calvary), 1910; Kearsley Park and Kalamazoo, 1913; Kercheval, 1914; Harper Avenue, 1915; Fern-dale, Lansing, and Twelfth, 1916; Pontiac (Baldwin), 1917; Wyandotte, 1918; Battle Creek and Jackson (Francis St.), 1920; East Detroit, 1921; Hereford, 1925; Chelsea, 1929.

During this period the Burnside congregation was transferred to

* The work established at an earlier date near Court Street was disbanded in 1910 when the present Saginaw church was organized.

Brown City and a new church erected. On fields established at an earlier date new churches were erected during this period as follows:

Petoskey, Carleton, Dearborn, Mack, Waterman, Griggs St., Greenwood Park, and Leighton. The Flint (First) and St. Joseph churches were enlarged and improved. A mission chapel was erected at Hamilton and Collingwood, Detroit. In 1925 the congregation relocated near the present Calvary site. Grand River erected a new edifice in 1923. In 1929 this building was sold and the congregation merged in the present Calvary church.

The merged congregation erected a fine educational unit at the present site, which will serve as a place of worship until the proposed auditorium is completed.

Congregations were established at Sears and Owendale during this period. Work was begun in Ann Arbor in 1925, a union church on the north side of the city serving as a place of worship. In 1933 the Harper Avenue congregation was merged with the Chelsea Avenue congregation. A new mission was established in West Monroe in 1927, and a suitable chapel erected. A class was organized at New Port in 1925, where they worship in a community church.

While the number of church buildings erected during this period did not nearly equal the number erected during the previous twenty-two years, the average cost per building was much higher. In fact, the combined cost of the present Mack Avenue and Waterman Avenue churches would almost equal the combined cost of the eighty churches erected between the years of 1887-1909.

PROPERTY VALUES

Property values were also greatly increased during this period. In 1909 the total estimated value of the churches of the conference area was \$394,791.00. In 1931 the estimated value had increased to \$1,792,630.00, a net gain of \$1,397,839.00. The estimated value of the parsonages of the conference increased from \$82,675.00 in 1909 to \$381,650.00 in 1931, a gain of nearly \$300,000.00. The net increase in the estimated value of the churches and parsonages of the conference total \$1,696,814.00 for this period. It should be recognized that a substantial portion of this increase was due to the increased cost of building and the fact that the valuation of many existing properties was greatly increased in the conference statistical reports. The number of churches decreased from 147 in 1909 to 140 in 1931, while the number of parsonages increased from 62 to 85 for the same period.

CONFERENCE INDEBTEDNESS

During the period closing with 1909, the indebtedness of the Church Extension Society had grown steadily due to the aid given

congregations in the erection of churches. Alarmed by the size of the debt the conference at the session of 1910 appointed Rev. J. A. Frye as collector.

With characteristic vigor Brother Frye gave himself to the task of collecting. He experienced marked success in his efforts and one year later was able to report \$18,708.09 secured in cash and pledges. Included in this amount was one gift of \$2,000.00 from a member of the Ionia congregation; another gift of \$1,000.00 from a member of the Monroe congregation and several gifts of \$500.00 or more. The indebtedness of the Church Extension Society was wiped out through this effort and the conference began with a clean slate, financially speaking.

It was not long, however, before an indebtedness began to accumulate again. The missions established in the cities called for expensive sites and heavy investments in buildings. This called for substantial assistance from the Church Extension Society. The aid given was mostly in the nature of loans. It developed later that the missions could not fully repay these loans. In some instances large loans had to be cancelled. In many instances missions defaulted in payments of interest and principal on their loans. The increased cost of living called for increased appropriations from the Missionary Society for salary and rent for the men serving missions. Because of the small number of members in the newer missions the appropriations had to be correspondingly larger.

The result was that by 1919 the indebtedness of both the Missionary and Church Extension Societies had increased to a point where the conference authorized the launching of the Victory Campaign under the leadership of the Conference Commission of Evangelism. The campaign outlined both spiritual and financial objectives, set forth more fully in a separate article.

On the financial objective \$61,785.25 was pledged, of which \$54,002.83 had been paid in by 1925. Of this amount, \$16,500.00 was paid toward the Conference Missionary Society debt, a like amount toward the Church Extension Society debt, \$12,300.00 toward the North Central College Endowment Fund, \$1,200.00 toward the permanent fund of the Student Aid Society, and \$3,275.00 toward the endowment fund of the Conference Deaconess Society.

This effort substantially reduced the indebtedness of the Church Extension and Missionary Societies. Through a legacy amounting to \$10,000.00, received in 1920 from the estate of Mr. Eckardt, the Conference Missionary Society had sufficient funds to wipe out its debt with a modest balance remaining.

But again heavy demands from the mission churches for assistance in the erection of churches and parsonages together with the demands

for missionary appropriations for salaries and rent for the missionaries plunged the conference into debt. This mounting debt was greatly increased in 1926 when the conference found it necessary to assume several thousands of dollars of indebtedness incurred through the fraud of C. B. Stroh, treasurer of the Church Extension Society from 1921 to 1925. The use of forged Church Extension Society notes made it possible for him to borrow directly from people, giving notes as security, without detection for a prolonged period. This experience not only resulted in a substantial increase in the indebtedness of the conference but also in a serious loss of confidence and good will on the part of the laity in the churches of the conference. He was deposed from the ministry and gave assurance of an earnest effort to repay what had been taken. While he paid some on the obligation, it was a relatively small amount as against the total obligation.

By 1929 the total obligation against the Church Extension Society had reached the imposing total of \$295,064.45, against which were various properties and notes against local congregations totaling \$300,474.86. Then the depression struck resulting in a marked drop in property values and greatly reduced income for the churches, making it impossible for the Church Extension Society to continue payments of interest at 6%. To relieve the situation the creditors of the conference and its auxiliaries were asked to accept a reduction in interest rate to 4%. The response was very generous, the concession being granted by practically every creditor of the conference.

In January, 1931, the conference launched the Centennial Campaign which was to climax in 1939 with a great celebration. The financial objectives of the Centennial Campaign were designed to reduce the indebtedness with the hope of its total elimination by 1940. While substantial aid was realized from this source the depression effectively curtailed the success originally hoped for—and so we close this period with the conference facing a staggering debt.

SPIRITUAL MOVEMENTS

This period was characterized by an aggressive evangelistic emphasis. Growing out of this evangelistic urge the Conference Commission on Evangelism was appointed in 1911 and since that time has given effective leadership to the evangelistic program of the conference. It has sought both to strengthen the evangelistic passion and to improve the evangelistic technique.

The Victory Campaign in 1919 and the Forward Movement in 1920 both carried in their objectives challenging goals for conversions and accessions. It was during this period in the year 1921 that the conference set an all-time record of 2,057 conversions and a net

gain of 655 church members for one year. The Centennial Campaign launched in 1931 also carried goals for conversions and accessions intended to call forth the best efforts of the conference.

During this period professional evangelism reached its high point in the history of the conference. Many of the city churches of the conference participated in union tabernacle meetings under the leadership of such men as Billy Sunday, George Stephens, O. E. Newlin, Bob Jones, and others. In a few instances substantial gains resulted for our churches from these meetings.

Evangelistic parties under the leadership of E. W. Petticord, Dave Hill, Harry Newell and others held many meetings in local churches of the conference, often with very marked results. While there are many phases of the work done by professional evangelists that are open to criticism, yet it must be admitted that some very definite gains resulted from the work of the professional evangelist.

In 1920 plans for an Evangelistic and Bible Conference were approved by the conference. Annually from 1920 to 1928 the conferences were held, usually in the month of September. Outstanding leaders of the denomination with prominent leaders from other denominations were annually on the program and made a splendid contribution to the spiritual life of the conference.

AUXILIARIES ORGANIZED

The Conference Deaconess Society designed to assist in the training and employment of deaconesses was organized in 1912. The Conference Student Aid Society was organized the same year for the purpose of giving assistance to young men in securing their training for the Christian ministry. These auxiliaries have made an important contribution to the progress of the conference.

In 1916 plans were presented and approved for the organization of a Conference Laymen's Church Extension Society. The following were elected as officers of the society: President, Theodore Hutt; secretary, Dr. G. I. Schellig; treasurer, J. W. Miller. The purpose of the society was to enlist the laymen of the conference in a program for the raising of funds for missionary and church extension work. The society was disbanded in 1923, after an existence of seven years. In 1920 the society gave \$600.00 toward the Wyandotte chapel. The short life of the society was probably due to the fact that it covered much the same field that was being covered by the original Church Extension Society.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

In 1909, Rev. J. A. Halmhuber was appointed as the first Sunday-school secretary, an office that was continued until 1927, when the

work was taken over by a Conference Director of Christian Education, with a much elaborated program. Rev. D. C. Ostroth was appointed in 1927 as the first Conference Director of Christian Education. Full information will be found in the article on Christian Education.

In 1927 all the conference interests in Christian Education were placed under the direction of a Conference Board of Religious Education. As a result of General Conference action the name was changed to "Board of Christian Education" in 1935.

SUPERANNUATION FUND

In 1911 the General Conference inaugurated the Superannuation Fund, a modified pension plan for ministers. Michigan responded to this undertaking in a very splendid manner. At the 1912 conference session the laymen present subscribed \$1,757.00 toward the fund. Again at the conference session in 1915 \$2,905.00 was pledged, of which there were two pledges of \$1,000.00 each by Revs. J. A. Schweitzer and C. C. Staffeld, and one pledge for \$500.00 by Rev. F. C. Berger. J. R. Niergarth was appointed solicitor in Michigan for the fund and at the 1919 conference session reported that \$30,000.00 had been secured in cash and pledges.

SALARY STANDARDS

In 1912, on recommendation of the laymen, the conference increased its salary standard to the following:

Probationers who are college graduates	\$550.00
Deacons	600.00 and rent
Elders for first two years	700.00 and rent
Elders after two years	800.00 and rent
Presiding elders	1,100.00 and 200.00 traveling exp.

At the conference session of 1917 the laymen recommended that the minimum salary for the city pastor be set at \$1,000.00 and the salary of presiding elders at \$1,000.00 with an allowance of \$30.00 per month for house rent and \$200.00 for traveling expenses.

DISTRICT HOUSES

Conference made provision for the purchase of district houses at the session in 1920. This action grew out of the fact that, due to the war, rents had become almost prohibitive and suitable houses difficult to secure, especially in Detroit.

At the same session the conference also made provision for a moving fund for the ministers. Each pastor was required to pay a stipulated amount to the fund annually and an item was included in the

Conference Budget for the moving fund. The plan has been modified several times in the twenty years of its operation, but has proven a valuable aid to the pastors of the conference.

THE JUBILEE SESSION

In 1914 the conference celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. The conference was entertained by the Mack Avenue church. A special program of great interest was prepared. A special gift of \$800.00 from Daniel Garlinger in memory of his wife was announced at this session. Several special features in the *Conference Journal* and a conference picture prepared by Rev. E. G. Frye, secretary of the conference, added considerable interest to the celebration.

COMMISSION ON FINANCE

For many years the financial needs of the conference were met by offerings for various causes and the levy of a certain amount per member for particularly needy causes. In emergencies collectors were appointed. In 1917 the conference, following the action of the General Conference, adopted a budget system and appointed a Conference Commission on Finance. Plans for a Conference Budget, covering the needs of the conference and its auxiliaries, and a General Budget which included the need of all general missionary benevolent and educational agencies were adopted. To the Commission on Finance was allocated the responsibility of preparing both Conference and General Budgets for the local churches. The commission was responsible for promotional and educational work in the conference finance program. Budget treasurers were elected by the conference to receive the funds. The following were members of the first Conference Commission on Finance: J. R. Niergarth, George Koehler, J. M. Nyce, W. C. Swenk, J. A. Halmhuber, Dr. G. I. Schellig, G. Knechtel, Joshua Braun, W. H. Watson, Theo. Hutt, H. I. Voelker, and J. W. Miller. For several years the conference trustees have served as the Conference Commission on Finance

A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT

The conference session of 1919, held at Leighton, will ever be memorable because of remarkable financial achievements. At this session the Victory Campaign was launched with Rev J. R. Niergarth as campaign superintendent. At the Saturday evening session of the conference, an appeal for cash and pledges was made by the superintendent with the result that \$3,500.00 was secured. In the missionary service on Sunday morning, \$6,500.00 was secured in cash and pledges, making a total of \$10,000.00 secured within

twenty-four hours This stands as a record for the 75 years of the conference history.

It is significant that a few months later the Leighton congregation pledged more than \$5,000.00 toward the Forward Movement. No other congregation in the conference has equalled this record.

MEN FOR THE MINISTRY

As a result of the spiritual impetus growing out of the Victory Campaign and Forward Movement program, an unprecedented number of young men offered themselves for the ministry during the years of 1921-22 and 23. During the three years the conference licensed a total of 44 men for the ministry; eighteen in 1921, fourteen in 1922, and twelve in 1923. In two years, 1923 and 25, seven young men entered the ministry from the Harper Mission alone.

Since many of these licentiates entered the college and seminary their entrance upon the active work of the ministry was distributed over a period of several years. However, it did provide the conference with an exceedingly generous ministerial supply for an extended period of years.

INCORPORATION OF THE CONFERENCE

For fifty-six years the conference carried on as an unincorporated body. A growing feeling that incorporation was desirable, culminated in an action by the conference in 1921, instructing the supervising committee to "investigate the steps necessary to incorporation and prepare a charter to be presented at the next annual session of the conference." The instructions were carried out, and in 1922 the conference elected the first trustee board with the following as members: W. H. Watson, W. C. Swenk, Joshua Braun, G. Knechtel, J. M. Nyce, H. I. Voelker, and C. C. Gibson. Of this number, C. C. Gibson and W. H. Watson have continued members of the board until the present time (1940). Rev. W. C. Swenk was the first chairman of the board.

ASSEMBLY GROUNDS

During the period 1909-31, two fine assembly grounds were developed in the conference. In 1912 the Bay Shore property was purchased by the Flint (now Bay City) district and in 1923, Lakeside Park was purchased by the Detroit district. Both properties have been developed into fine assembly grounds. At Lakeside the first camps for boys and girls, conducted under Evangelical auspices in the state, were held in 1924.

During this period the camp meeting and assembly programs of the conference were greatly enlarged and elaborated.

THE MERGER AND THE BAY CITY CONGREGATION

In October, 1922, the merger of the Evangelical Association and the United Evangelical Church was consummated, at the Mack Avenue church, Detroit. This significant event did not greatly affect the personnel of the Michigan Conference. However, as a result of the merger, the Bay City congregation which had existed as an independent congregation for several years, made application for reception into the Michigan Conference, at the session in 1923. Their petition was most cheerfully granted.

MEN DEPOSED

The conference suffered a severe shock in 1926 when it became necessary to depose three men serving in the active ranks of the ministry. The shock was the greater because one of the three occupied a high position in the conference and all three were held in high esteem prior to their delinquencies.

CONFERENCE MARKERS

In 1897 the conference ordered placing of a suitable stone at the grave of Solomon Altimos, first Evangelical missionary to Michigan. The committee appointed carried out the instructions and made their report to the conference in 1898.

When the conference was making plans for the observance of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the beginning of Evangelical work in Michigan, Mr. Selas Neuroth suggested placing a suitable marker at the site of the Beagle church near Blissfield where the first session of the conference was held in 1865. The suggestion was approved by the conference, and a committee consisting of C. C. Gibson, S. Moeller, R. H. Lahr, J. W. Richards, George Maierle, and S. S. Neuroth appointed to erect the marker. The conference trustees and the Marker Committee coöperated in plans for the unveiling which occurred October 8, 1933. A suitable memorial booklet was prepared as one feature of the dedication. Bishops S. P. Spreng and J. F. Dunlap participated in the unveiling.

PONTIAC CHURCHES

Believing that it would be good strategy to merge the two Pontiac churches, the conference at the 1928 session, ordered that the churches be merged at the Baldwin Avenue site. The Calvary church people refused to coöperate in the merger project. Two years later the Calvary church was reopened under the leadership of Rev. W. P. Peck. The work has been satisfactorily reestablished and the future for both Pontiac churches appears hopeful.

CONCLUSION

And so we conclude our study of one of the most aggressive and progressive periods of the conference history. One may find numerous activities during this period that may be subject to criticism, but on the whole it is a period of splendid progress and noteworthy achievement.

CHAPTER 6

THE PERIOD OF DEBT LIQUIDATION AND INTERNAL EXPANSION

1931 — 1940

The nine years between 1931 and 1940 have been devoted largely to conference debt problems. Added to the burden of a rapidly mounting conference debt were the problems growing out of the industrial and economic collapse culminating in 1929 and continuing for several years.

Depreciated values, reduced incomes and industrial disorganization generally, greatly affected the income from the churches. This is strikingly revealed in the statistics of the conference, where it appears that from a total receipts of \$417,103.77 for all purposes and an average per member of \$33.91 in 1930, the conference income sharply declined each year until it reached the bottom in 1934 with a total received for all purposes of \$234,290.05, and an average per member of \$17.92. This represented a difference of \$182,813.72 in the annual income of the churches of the conference. The net loss in the income for the churches of the conference for the four years of 1931, 32, 33 and 34 amounted to approximately \$500,000.00. The loss to the conference treasuries directly through decreased receipts from budgets and gifts amounted to many thousands of dollars during this period.

Faced with this serious situation, the secretary and treasurer of the Church Extension Society upon instructions from the conference trustees, appealed to creditors of the society in 1931 for a reduction in interest rate. Almost without exception the response was favorable and the interest rate was reduced to 4% and in some instances 3%. This gave some very necessary relief.

In January, 1931, the Centennial Campaign was launched with definite spiritual and financial objectives. The financial objectives provided for an effort to raise \$10,000.00 annually for ten years through a Centennial Fellowship and \$100,000.00 in annuities and bequests by 1940. This, it was hoped would aid materially in solving the conference financial problem. However, with the collapse of the industrial situation it was impossible to realize these objectives, though some assistance was received from this source.

In 1933 the conference decided to elect a conference financial secretary who would be responsible under conference direction for the management of all conference finances and for the promotion of stewardship within the conference. He would also promote the rais-

ing of the conference budgets and do such field work as was considered practical. Rev. G. H. Kellermann was elected to the office.

However, in spite of every effort made by the conference, the debt continued to increase. By 1935 the total conference debt had reached \$400,368.13, not including the obligations of local churches. The situation seemed sufficiently serious to cause the conference to ask its creditors for a waiver of interest for five years on all loans. At a meeting held in June, 1935, the creditors granted a waiver of interest for three years. At the 1935 conference session, Rev. C. C. Gibson was elected as conference financial secretary.

Through the waiver of interest, the collection of unpaid district parsonage apportionments, budgets paid nearly 100%, debt quotas accepted by the churches and some special gifts the tide has been turned in the right direction. From the reports of 1939 we discover that the total liabilities of the conference have been reduced to \$305,847.04, which includes \$10,385.00 in annuities and \$44,375.38 in mortgages, most of which are being liquidated by local churches. The actual indebtedness of the conference stands at about \$260,000.00 which indicates marked progress over a period of five years. If the present rate of reduction can be maintained a few more years will make a decided difference in the debt picture.

NEW MISSION

A new mission established in the city of Mt. Pleasant during the conference year of 1939-40 is the only new work established during this period.

In 1933 the Harper Avenue Mission was merged with the Chelsea Mission at the Chelsea site.

Financial problems growing out of the depression period have limited the amount of new work that could be established.

NUMERICAL GROWTH

Notwithstanding the fact that only one new mission has been established during this period, the numerical growth may be regarded as encouraging. Except for the years of 1935 and 1937 when there were small net losses, there has been an increase in church membership each year. The gains are as follows: 1932, 183; 1933, 239; 1934, 37; 1936, 79; 1938, 243; 1939, 300. The total increase for the eight years has been 807.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The trend in Sunday-school enrollment has been downward during this period, having dropped from 21,668 in 1931 to 19,277 in 1939.

Several factors may account for this trend. Among them may be mentioned—a lowered birthrate, smaller cradle roll and home departments in local churches, less emphasis upon organized class work, an attitude of indifference on the part of the public and a stronger emphasis by Sunday-school workers upon techniques as over against efforts to secure members.

CHURCHES AND PARSONAGES

We must report a net decrease in churches and parsonages for the period. The number of churches decreased from 140 in 1931 to 126 in 1939 and the parsonages from 85 in 1931 to 79 in 1939.

Property values of the conference also decreased decidedly. This was largely due to general conditions. The estimated value of the churches of the conference dropped from \$1,792,630.00 in 1931 to \$1,467,650.00 in 1939. The estimated values of the parsonages dropped from \$381,650.00 in 1931 to \$291,625.00 in 1939. The net loss in estimated values of church properties amounted to \$215,005.00 for the eight years. The loss is due almost entirely to lowered estimates rather than to actual loss in property.

On the whole, some very definite gains have been made during the period. The conference has been in much the same position as a general who has pushed his lines well ahead of the main body of his army and must take time to consolidate his position. The future looks encouraging for the Evangelicals of Michigan. With the aggressive leadership on the part of its ministry and hearty coöperation on the part of its laity coupled with the Divine blessing in all its labors the Michigan Conference should have an important part in building the Kingdom of our Christ.

SECTION II

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE STATISTICS

1865 — 1940

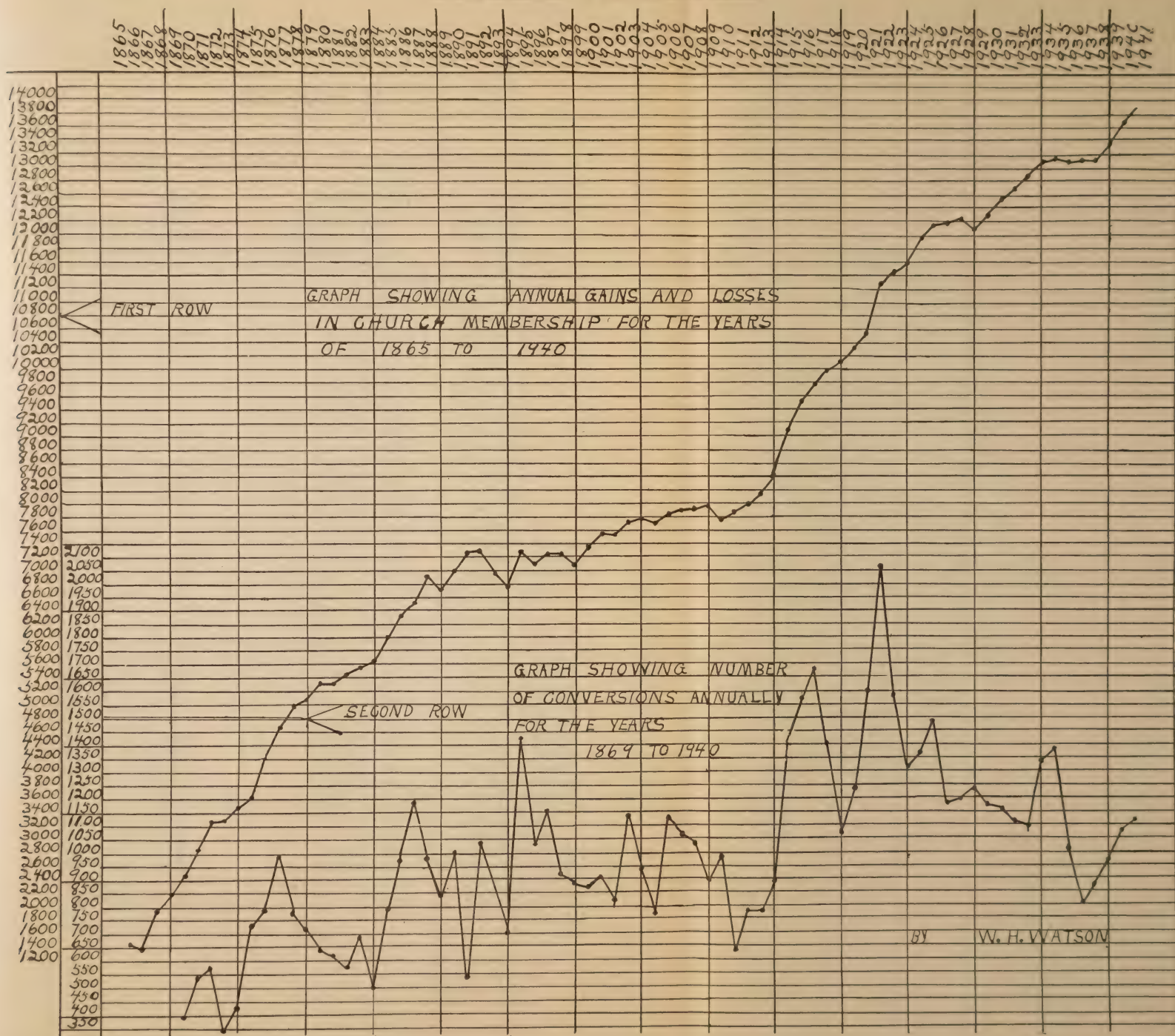
<i>Year</i>	<i>Conversions</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Net gain</i>	<i>Present Membership</i>
1940	1109	944	225	13864
1939	1076	1060	300	13639
1938	958	949	243	13339
1937	876	875	3 L.	13096
1936	801	761	79	13099
1935	1004	926	88 L.	13020
1934	1388	1046	37	13108
1933	1340	1227	239	13071
1932	1097	976	183	12832
1931	1111	1095	135	12649
1930	1152	1055	217	12514
1929	1161	1125	215	12297
1928	1234	1006	141 L.	12082
1927	1197	1174	55	12223
1926	1174	1036	18	12168
1925	1485	1257	222	12150
1924	1360	1299	327	11930
1923	1304	1319	169	11593
1922	1581	1444	198	11424
1921	2057	1819	655	11226
1920	1599	1575	302	10571
1919	1246	1106	196	10269
1918	1055	1298	82	10073
1917	1400	1345	226	9991
1916	1676	1320	283	9765
1915	1564	1512	476	9490
1914	1414	1547	626	9014
1913	896	997	292	8388
1912	761	999	171	8096
1911	762	851	94	7925
1910	638	739	63	7831
1909	981	1111	181 L.	7768
1908	888	983	60	7949
1907	1030	1099	...	7889
1906	1062	1021	76	7889
1905	1128	1004	126	7813
1904	763	842	51 L.	7687
1903	930	1494	48	7738
1902	1140	983	170	7690
1901	809	877	38 L.	7520
1900	901	984	225	7558
1899	859	869	274	7333
1898	880	813	152 L.	7059

<i>Year</i>	<i>Conversions</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Net gain</i>	<i>Present Membership</i>
1897	912	805	32 L.	7211
1896	1151	1021	167	7243
1895	1026	845	208 L.	7076
1894	1406	1213	539	7284
1893	692	641	348 L.	6745
1892	857	788	294 L.	6993
1891	1028	941	43	7287
1890	531	712	260	7244
1889	1000	1038	248	6984
1888	833	1006	193 L.	6736
1887	975	1109	413	6929
1886	1191	1091	184	6516
1885	961	1134	342	6332
1884	782	1073	379	5990
1883	485	738	69	5611
1882	687	849	124	5542
1881	556	854	116	5418
1880	619	872	7 L.	5302
1879	640	854	254	5309
1878	705	949	114	5055
1877	763	865	281	4941
1876	997	981	402	4660
1875	789	956	658	4258
1874	720	811	178	3600
1873	417	516	131	3422
1872	301	408	61	3291
1871	566	689	370	3230
1870	537	610	369	2860
1869	393	429	297	2491
1868	...	522	302	2194
1867	...	536	523	1892
1866	...	377	45 L.	1369
1865	...	388	..	1414
1864 No report				

Total	71457	74503
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NOTE: The number of conversions is not shown until 1869.

GRAPH SHOWING NUMERICAL PROGRESS AND THE RECORD OF CONVERSIONS DURING THE YEARS SINCE THE CONFERENCE WAS ORGANIZED



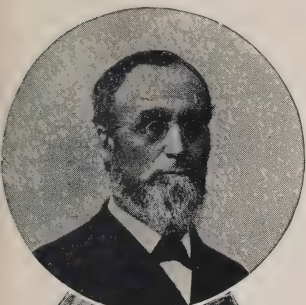
SECTION III

TIME AND PLACE OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Presiding Bishop</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
1865	Blissfield, Mich.	Joseph Long	John Meck
1866	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Joseph Long	John Meck
1867	Portage Prairie, Mich.	John J. Esher	John M. Haug
1868	Park, Mich.	Joseph Long	John Meck
1869	Bainbridge, Mich.	Rev. M. J. Miller	John M. Haug
1870	Freedom, Mich.	John J. Esher	John M. Haug
1871	Lima, Ind.	John J. Esher	John M. Haug
1872	Woodland, Mich.	John J. Esher	John M. Haug
1873	Delta, Ohio	John J. Esher	John M. Haug
1874	Flint, Mich.	John J. Esher	Stephen Henne
1875	LaSalle, Mich.	Reuben Yeakel	Edward Weiss
1876	Ionia, Mich.	John J. Esher	Stephen Henne
1877	Riga, Mich.	Rudolph Dubs	F. F. Meyer
1878	Litchfield, Mich.	Reuben Yeakel	F. F. Meyer
1879	Park, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	F. F. Meyer
1880	East Raisenville, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	F. F. Meyer
1881	Sharon, Mich.	John J. Esher	C. G. Koch
1882	Oregon, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	C. G. Koch
1883	Lima, Ind.	Rudolph Dubs	C. G. Koch
1884	Portage Prairie, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	Frederick Klump
1885	Ionia, Mich.	Rudolph Dubs	Frederick Klump
1886	Reed City, Mich.	Rudolph Dubs	Frederick Klump
1887	Park, Mich.	John J. Esher	Frederick Klump
1888	Howell, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	Henry Schneider
1889	Woodland, Mich.	Rudolph Dubs	J. George Haller
1890	Cass City, Mich.	John J. Esher	Wm. A. Koehler
1891	Portage Prairie, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	Wm. A. Koehler
1892	East Raisenville, Mich.	John J. Esher	Wm. A. Koehler
1893	Eureka, Mich.	William Horn	George Johnson
1894	Oregon, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	George Johnson
1895	Buchanan, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	George J. Kirn
1896	Capac, Mich.	John J. Esher	George J. Kirn
1897	Leighton, Mich.	William Horn	Frank C. Berger
1898	Nashville, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	Frank C. Berger
1899	Ida, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	Frank C. Berger
1900	Sebewaing, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	Frederick Klump
1901	Detroit, Mich. (First)	William Horn	John R. Niergarth
1902	Hersey, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	John R. Niergarth
1903	Sharon, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	John R. Niergarth
1904	Buchanan, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	John R. Niergarth
1905	Elkton, Mich.	William Horn	John R. Niergarth
1906	Sebewaing, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	John R. Niergarth
1907	Reed City, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	John R. Niergarth
1908	Leighton, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	John R. Niergarth

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Presiding Bishop</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
1909	Riverton, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	John R. Niergarth
1910	Blissfield, Mich.	William Horn	John R. Niergarth
1911	Nashville, Mich.	Thomas Bowman	Edwin G. Frye
1912	Owosso, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	Edwin G. Frye
1913	Flint, Mich. (First)	Samuel P. Spreng	Edwin G. Frye
1914	Detroit, Mich. (Mack)	Thomas Bowman	Edwin G. Frye
1915	Grand Rapids, Mich. (First) ..	S. C. Breyfogel	J. A. Halmhuber
1916	St. Joseph, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	J. A. Halmhuber
1917	Elkton, Mich.	Samuel P. Spreng	J. A. Halmhuber
1918	Ionia, Mich.	G. Heinmiller	J. A. Halmhuber
1919	Leighton, Mich.	Lawrence H. Seager	J. A. Halmhuber
1920	Portage Prairie, Mich.	Samuel P. Spreng	Clyde G. Gibson
1921	Sebewaing, Mich.	G. Heinmiller	Clyde G. Gibson
1922	Monroe, Mich.	S. C. Breyfogel	Clyde G. Gibson
1923	St. Joseph, Mich.	John F. Dunlap	Clyde C. Gibson
1924	Bay City, Mich.	Lawrence H. Seager	Clyde C. Gibson
1925	Flint, Mich. (First)	Matthew T. Maze	Clyde C. Gibson
1926	Detroit, Mich. (Waterman) ...	Samuel P. Spreng	Edgar S. Faust
1927	Jackson, Mich.	John S. Stamm	Edgar S. Faust
1928	Sebewaing, Mich.	John F. Dunlap	Edgar S. Faust
1929	Grand Rapids, Mich. (Griggs) .	Lawrence H. Seager	Edgar S. Faust
1930	Portage Prairie, Mich.	Matthew T. Maze	Edgar S. Faust
1931	Dearborn, Mich.	John F. Dunlap	Edgar S. Faust
1932	Snover, Mich.	John F. Dunlap	Edgar S. Faust
1933	Battle Creek, Mich.	John F. Dunlap	Edgar S. Faust
1934	Detroit, Mich. (Calvary)	John F. Dunlap	Frederick W. Kirn
1935	Elkton, Mich.	George E. Epp	Frederick W. Kirn
1936	Petoskey, Mich.	George E. Epp	Frederick W. Kirn
1937	Detroit, Mich. (Twelfth)	George E. Epp	Frederick W. Kirn
1938	Leighton, Mich.	George E. Epp	Frederick W. Kirn
1939	Blissfield, Mich.	George E. Epp	Frederick W. Kirn
1940	Pigeon, Mich.	George E. Epp	Frederick W. Kirn

BISHOPS WHO HAVE SERVED THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE AND THE YEARS IN WHICH THEY SERVED



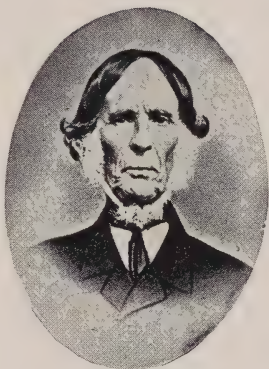
JOHN J. ESHER

1867	1876
1870	1881
1871	1887
1872	1890
1873	1892
1874	1896



REUBEN YEAKEL

1875	1878
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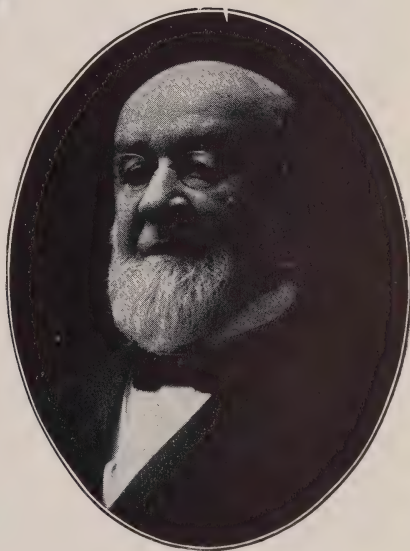


JOSEPH LONG
1865 1866
1868



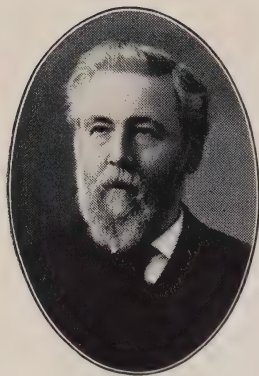
RUDOLPH DUBS, D.D., LL.D.

1877	1885
1883	1886
1889	



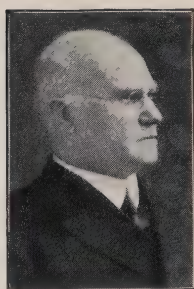
THOMAS BOWMAN, D.D.

1879	1884	1895	1907
1880	1888	1902	1909
1882	1891	1904	1911
		1914	



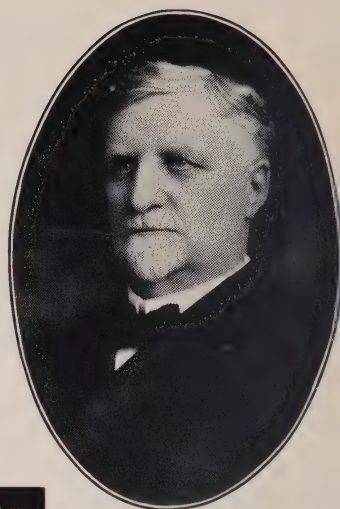
WILLIAM HORN, D.D.

1893	1901
1897	1905
1910	



SAMUEL P. SPRENG, D.D.

1913	1920
1917	1926



G. HEINMILLER, D.D.

1918	1921
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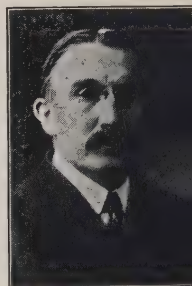
LAWRENCE H. SEAGER,
D.D., LL.D.

1919	1924
1929	



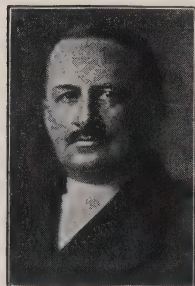
SYLVANUS C. BREYFOGEL,
D.D., LL.D.

1894	1900	1906	1912
1898	1903	1908	1915
	1916	1922	



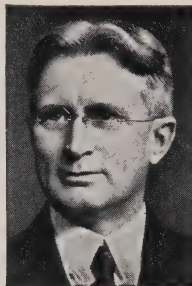
MATTHEW T. MAZE
D.D.

1925	1930
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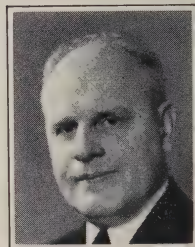
JOHN F. DUNLAP,
D.D.

1923	1932
1931	1934
1928	1933



JOHN S. STAMM,
D.D., LL.D.

1927



GEORGE E. EPP,
D.D., LL.D.

1935	1939
1936	1940
1937	1941
1938	1942

SECTION IV

DIGEST OF CONFERENCE ACTIONS

1865 — 1940

1865

Conference met at 8 A. M., April 12, 1865, in Immanuel's church near Blissfield, Mich.

Bishop Joseph Long presiding.

Secretary, John Meck; assistant, J. M. Haug.

It was voted that preachers should change their places of entertainment every second day during the conference.

Friday morning was devoted to a Good Friday worship service.

No complaints against ministers.

Business rules were adopted.

W. Riemke was granted license to preach.

D. H. Rohland retired on account of physical disability.

M. Speck, Jonas Borough, J. M. Fuchs and H. D. McBride were received into the itinerancy.

W. Riemke, C. S. Brown, John McQuillen, H. D. McBride and J. M. Fuchs were reported as applicants for work.

Boundaries:

The appointments: Whitehouse, Billings, Monclova, and Kleins were taken from Fulton Circuit and added to Adrian.

Gilead, Brockville, Brod, Zebst and Eisenhauer's were taken from Lima Circuit and added to Fulton.

The remaining appointments from Lima Circuit were added to St. Joseph Circuit.

Kalamazoo Mission was changed to Marshall Mission.

Sipawany shall be taken up as a mission and supplied with pastor if possible.

Cohoctah and Genoa shall be taken from Owosso Mission and placed with Ann Arbor.

The balance in the conference treasury was distributed to the preachers short on their salaries.

Permission was given to collect in the conference for the churches at Detroit and on Owosso Mission.

Should a collector for our mission at Washington, D. C., come, he will be welcomed.

The following resolution on schools and education was passed:

"We are glad for the interest manifest in the institutions of learning, especially our high schools and colleges. We acknowledge receipt of a communication from

the Pittsburgh Conference asking us to join with them in the erection of a college. We are pleased with this manifestation of interest but regret that we are not able at this time to join them as we have no funds available and our conference is too weak."

Salary increases were granted as follows: City missionaries, 20%, rural missionaries full salary, house rent and traveling expenses, pastors of circuits 10%, and presiding elders 25% increase.

Appointments:*

DETROIT DISTRICT, Daniel Strohman, Presiding Elder; Fulton Circuit, Jonas Borough and C. S. Brown; Adrian Circuit, H. D. McBride and S. Copley; Ann Arbor Circuit, George Doll; Dearborn Mission, C. Roehm; Detroit Mission, J. M. Haug; St. Clair Mission, Stephen Henne.

ST. JOSEPH DISTRICT, A. Nicolai, Presiding Elder; St. Joseph Circuit, Reuben Riegel and M. Alspach; Berrien Circuit, Joshua Paulin; Marshall Mission, C. Ude; Ionia Mission, M. Speck and J. M. Fuchs; Owosso Mission, John Meck; Genesee Mission, C. Deike and W. Riemke.

Business rules:

(1) After the organization of the conference, the president of the conference shall address the conference.

(2) The time of the daily sessions shall be 8:30 to 11:30 and 2 to 5 P. M.

(3) Every morning the minutes of the previous day shall be read for adoption. The minutes of the last day are to be read at the close of the session.

(4) The different committees are to be appointed by the chairman. In the case the chairman desires it, the conference shall appoint the committee.

(5) Immediately after the opening of the morning session, the committees shall have opportunity to report.

(6) During the examination of preachers only preachers in the itinerancy shall be present, all local preachers and probationers shall be excluded.

(7) At the request of the president, secretary, or two members of the conference, all items of new business or recommendations shall be presented in writing.

(8) All voting members shall sit in a body and retain their places during the conference session. Voting shall be by "yea" and "nay." At the request of the president, a standing vote may be taken.

(9) If a motion is supported or if a report is read by the secretary, it shall be assumed that the conference becomes the owner of the

* It was on Saturday morning, April 15th, during this conference session, that word was brought to the floor that President Abraham Lincoln had been assassinated. It is reported that when Bishop Long learned of the President's death he leaned back in his chair and in a mournful tone exclaimed, "Oh God, what will become of us yet?"

resolution. When a resolution is presented, the author shall be permitted to withdraw it at any time before final action is taken.

(10) Any article laid on the table shall not be disposed of without further discussion by the conference.

(11) No new motions shall be presented unless preceding items are disposed of unless by special permission from the conference.

(12) Any person wishing to talk shall stand up and get permission from the chair.

(13) No one shall be interrupted while talking unless he departs from the subject, becomes personal or abusive. Then the chairman shall call him to order. Any member of the conference has the right to call the attention of the president to such action.

(14) No one shall speak more than twice and not more than 15 minutes at one time on any subject until all have spoken who wish to do so unless by special permission from the conference.

(15) After a motion has carried a reconsideration may be had on motion from some one voting with the majority.

(16) No one is allowed to withdraw from the session. Those detained from attending the conference on account of sickness shall report in good time. Any minister withdrawing from the conference session without the permission of the bishop or who fails to attend without sufficient reason shall be left without an appointment during the following year.

(17) Every member shall be required to vote on all measures unless excused by the conference.

(18) The president shall refrain from expressing his personal opinion until all members of the conference have had opportunity to speak.

(19) Members of the conference shall not be allowed to walk to and fro in the room, transact private business or chew tobacco during the sessions of the conference.

(20) After opening of the meeting, the roll shall be called. Any coming late shall be reprimanded, and if not excused shall not have the right to vote during that session.

(21) Every pastor is required to turn in his finance report at once and in good condition so that the finance committee shall be able to report to conference.

(22) The minutes of the meeting shall be examined and approved by the president and secretary before appearing in our church papers.

Statistics: The conference reported 14 itinerant preachers, 16 local preachers, 16 churches valued at \$13,400.00, 4 parsonages valued at \$2,400.00. There was raised for retired preachers, \$42.29 and \$978.20 in missionary offerings. There were 14 Sunday schools with 110 officers and teachers, 373 scholars and 727 volumes in the library. There

were 4 catechetical classes with 32 catechumens. In church membership 256 were received, 80 lost, a net gain of 176, leaving at the end of the year 1414 members. The conference closed with an impressive prayer by Bishop Long. Monday morning there were tender partings as all the brethren returned with new strength to their fields.

1866

Conference convened Thursday morning April 12, 1866 in Emmanuel's church near Ann Arbor.

Bishop Joseph Long presided.

Secretary, John Meck; assistant, Stephen Henne.

Complaints: There were none.

Licensed: John Orth and Ludwig Engel.

Received: M. Hartman received from the United Brethren church.

Ordained: J. M. Fuchs and C. Beagle (Bueckel), voted elders' orders.

Itinerancy: M. J. Miller, Ludwig Engel, S. Copley and C. S. Brown were received into the itinerancy.

STANDING OF MINISTERS: Elders: A. Nicolai, D. Strohman, J. M. Haug, John Meck, George Doll, M. Speck, Stephen Henne, C. Ude, H. B. McBride, Rueben Riegel, Jonas Borough, C. Dieke, C. Roehm, Joshua Paulin, M. Alspach and J. M. Fuchs. Local Elders: Benjamin Keller, D. C. Rohland, John McQuillen, Christian Thomas, Daniel Heininger, Philip Schwille, R. Spatz, Jacob Trometer. Local Deacons: Elias Loose and Carl Schmidt. Probationers: Ludwig Engel, M. Hartman, Mike Bromm, John Gilhausen, Chris. Beagle, Wm. Riemke, John Orth, S. Copley, Geo. Kuttler, John Miller, Jacob Heiss and John Storrer.

A. Nicolai and D. Strohman appointed a committee to improve finance rules.

Committee on Boundaries: report.

(a) Dearborn Mission to be attached to Ann Arbor Circuit.

(b) Genoa and Cohoctah taken from Ann Arbor Circuit and added to Genesee Mission.

(c) Osceola and Mecosta Counties shall be taken up under the name of Mecosta Mission.

(d) If possible Berrien Circuit shall be divided into two parts, the southern half to be named Berrien Circuit and the northern half shall be called Bainbridge Circuit and shall have the following appointments: Royalton, St. Joseph, Bainbridge, Freitags, Keeler and Bangor.

(e) The missions Genesee and Sebewaing shall be taken from St. Joseph District and added to Detroit District.

Elected: M. J. Miller was elected presiding elder.

Credentials: Daniel Strohman decided to return to the Ohio Conference and was voted credentials with regrets.

Collected: Twenty-five dollars was collected among members of the conference to pay the balance of the debt on the Detroit church.

Ionia was given the privilege of collecting in the conference in case they build a new church.

Finance Rules: The committee on finance reported the following: "When preachers of the conference are traveling on their fields or in the conference and are under necessity of paying for meals the following rule shall apply:

(a) For presiding elders 25% of the cheapest meals and cheapest means of transportation shall be borne by the conference.

(b) For circuit preacher 15% shall be paid by the conference.

(c) For city missionaries 25% of table expenses shall be borne by the conference.

(d) For rural missionaries 15% of table and traveling expenses shall be borne by the conference.

All preachers shall have the right to collect house rent and traveling expenses from their fields."

Resolution against secrecy: Because of the "uproar" in an eastern conference over the secrecy question, ministers of the Michigan Conference were forbidden to join secret societies and were requested to use their influence to prevent their members from joining.

Collections. Each preacher is required to take up conference collections during the year. If he fails to do so he shall pay \$5.00 out of his own pocket.

Sunday Services: Bishop Long preached at the morning service. Communion service in the afternoon. Rev. A. Nicolai preached a missionary sermon in the evening. A good offering and 13 new members for the missionary society.

Appointments:

DETROIT DISTRICT, M. J. Miller, Presiding Elder; Ann Arbor, J. Borough; Adrian, H. B. McBride and L. Engel; Fulton, J. Paulin and C. S. Brown; Detroit, C. Ude; St. Clair, C. Roehm; Genesee, J. M. Fuchs; Sebawaing, S. Henne.

ST. JOSEPH DISTRICT, A. Nicolai, Presiding Elder; St. Joseph Circuit, Geo. Doll and S. Copley; Berrien Circuit, M. Alspach and M. Speck; Marshall Mission, R. Riegel; Ionia, John Meck; Owosso, J. M. Haug; Mecosta Mission, C. Dieke.

Statistics: New members received during the year 377; lost 95. Net gain, 282. Members at close of the year 1,369.* Itinerant ministers, 17; local ministers, 20. Seventeen churches with a valuation of \$16,900.00. Five parsonages valued at \$3,800.00. Twenty Sunday schools with 576 members enrolled. Books in Sunday-school libraries, 1,483. Total salary from eleven fields, \$3,360.50, an average per man of \$305.50. Some fields seem to have had no report.

* It should be noted that while a net gain of 282 members is reported for the year, the total membership of 1,369 is less than reported at the end of 1865, which was 1,414. The discrepancy seems to be due to counting members on probation one year and not counting them the next year.

1867

Conference convened Thursday, April 11, 1867, at Portage Prairie. Bishop J. J. Esher presided.

Secretary, J. M. Haug; assistant, Stephen Henne.

Devotions: Conference ordered that one hour be spent in devotions preceding each period of business.

Charges: Ludwig Engel, a probationer, married during the year. M. J. Miller brought charges against him. Conference punished him by extending his probation to three years instead of the customary two years. He also baptized during the year without right to do so. He admitted his wrong, asked forgiveness and was forgiven.

Received: B. F. Wade, Edward Weiss, John Beck and Jacob Young were received as preachers on probation.

Orders: C. S. Brown was voted elder's orders.

Itinerancy: Daniel Heininger, R. Spatz, E. Weiss and John Orth were received into the itinerancy. E. B. Miller came with credentials from an Eastern Conference and was received into the itinerancy.

Located: H. B. McBride on account of health and R. Riegel for other reasons, located.

Credentials: M. Alspach took credentials to a Western Conference.

Boundaries:

DETROIT DISTRICT: (1) That part of Fulton Circuit west of Bean Creek shall be constituted Fremont Circuit. (2) Ann Arbor and Genesee Mission shall each be served by two preachers if possible.

ST. JOSEPH DISTRICT: (1) Marshall Mission shall be made a circuit. (2) Ionia Mission shall have two preachers if possible. (3) St. Clair Mission shall be called Capac Mission. (4) Mecosta Mission shall be called Osceola Mission. (5) Fremont Circuit shall be attached to Detroit District.

New Church: A new church shall be erected on Sebewaing Mission and the pastor allowed to collect for same on Detroit District.

Woodland: The presiding elder on the St. Joseph District is requested to collect \$150.00 on his own district to pay balance of debt on Woodland church.

Detroit Church: The Detroit church has a \$50.00 debt which it cannot pay. The pastor, C. Ude, was authorized to collect for same during the conference session.

St. Joseph Church: A committee was appointed to supervise the building of the St. Joseph church.

Bainbridge: The pastor at Bainbridge received permission to collect on the St. Joseph District.

Flint: A committee was appointed to investigate the wisdom of building a new church in Flint. Permission was granted to collect for the church on the Detroit District if necessary.

Adrian: The city of Adrian was to be taken up as a mission and a preacher placed if possible. Not more than \$50.00 was to be appropriated from the missionary treasury. The name of Adrian Circuit shall be changed to Blissfield Circuit.

Missionaries: The balance in the conference treasury was ordered paid to the missionaries.

Delegates to General Conference: M. J. Miller, John Meck, A. Nicolai; alternates, R. Riegel and J. M. Haug.

District Meetings: The presiding elders were requested to hold district meetings during the year.

Appropriations: Were made to the conference missions as follows:

Detroit Mission	\$275.00	Owosso Mission	\$100.00
Ionia	350.00	Osceola	285.00
Genesee	416.00	Capac	210.00
Sebewaing	270.00	Adrian	50.00
		Total	\$1,956.00

Appointments:

DETROIT DISTRICT, M. J. Miller, Presiding Elder; Detroit, C. Ude; Adrian, to be supplied; Blissfield, J. Paulin and R. Spatz; Fulton, J. Borough; Fremont, S. Copley; Ann Arbor, D. Heining and L. Engel; Genesee, J. M. Fuchs and E. Weiss; Capac, C. Roehm; Sebewaing, S. Henne.

ST. JOSEPH DISTRICT, A. Nicolai, Presiding Elder; St. Joseph Circuit, Geo. Doll and C. S. Brown; Berrien, E. B. Miller, Bainbridge, M. Speck; Marshall, R. Riegel; Owosso, J. M. Haug; Ionia, J. Meck and J. Orth; Osceola, C. Dieke.

Sunday Services: Bishop Esher preached the ordination sermon in the morning. In the afternoon a communion service was conducted. A missionary service was held in the evening with a collection of \$800.00. With tears and deep feeling, the brethren resolved to do their best during the year.

1868

Conference met Thursday, April 9, 1868, at Zion's church, Flowerfield (Park), St. Joseph County, Michigan.

Bishop Joseph Long presided. Read 1 Cor. 3.

Secretary, J. Meck; assistant, C. Ude.

Complaint was entered against Geo. Doll and he was later left without an appointment.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted S. Copley. Elders' orders were voted J. M. Fuchs and R. Spatz.

Received: George Haller, Christian Weisbrod, Theo. Davis and Jacob Rood were received on probation.

Itinerancy: B. F. Wade, E. Evans, C. Weisbrod and D. C. Rohland were received into the itinerancy.

Credentials: E. Evans came with credentials from the Indiana Conference. H. B. McBride and R. Riegel were voted credentials, the latter to the Indiana Conference.

Boundaries:

(a) Dearborn and Taylor Center were taken from Ann Arbor and attached to Detroit.

(b) Raisenville and Ida were taken from Blissfield and with Monroe City constituted the Monroe Circuit.

(c) Smith's Place taken from Fremont Circuit and attached to Fulton Circuit.

(d) Owosso Mission is made a circuit.

(e) The appointment in Saginaw is taken from Genesee Mission and attached to Owosso Circuit.

(f) Woodland, Castleton, Maple Grove and Middleville shall be taken from Ionia Mission and constituted Barry Mission.

(g) Royalton and St. Joseph shall be taken from Bainbridge Circuit to form St. Joseph Mission.

(h) Adrian Mission shall be attached to Blissfield Circuit.

(i) Fulton, Blissfield, Fremont and Monroe Circuits shall be detached from Detroit District and attached to St. Joseph District.

(j) Barry, Ionia, Osceola and Owosso shall be taken from St. Joseph District and added to Detroit District.

Resigned: M. J. Miller resigned as presiding elder. Because of the pressing needs, the conference refused to accept his resignation.

Membership: New members are to be received into the church in full connection instead of on probation.

Flint Church: A. Nicolai, C. Roehm and John Zimmerman were appointed a new committee on the Flint church building.

St. Joseph Church: M. J. Miller, J. M. Haug, E. Evans, Henry Ashof and James Clausen were appointed a new committee on the St. Joseph church building. Collecting for the St. Joseph church may be done on the St. Joseph District.

Sebewaing: The pastor is granted permission to collect anywhere for his church.

Elected: A. Nicolai was reelected presiding elder.

Appointments:

DETROIT DISTRICT, A. Nicolai, Presiding Elder; Ann Arbor, Daniel Heininger; Owosso, C. Ude; Detroit, M. Speck; Capac, J. M. Fuchs and L. Engel; Genesee, C. Roehm and C. Weisbrod; Sebewaing, E. Weiss; Ionia, S. Henne; Osceola, J. Orth; Barry, C. Dieke.

ST. JOSEPH DISTRICT, M. J. Miller, Presiding Elder; St. Joseph Circuit, C. S. Brown and another; Berrien, E. Evans; Bainbridge, J. Meck; Marshall, E. B. Miller; Fremont, D. Rohland and B. F. Wade; Fulton, Jonas Borough; Blissfield, J. Paulin and R. Spatz; Monroe, S. Copley; St. Joseph Mission, J. M. Haug.

Sunday Services: Conference Sunday came on Easter.

Morning—Bishop Long preached ordination sermon and elders were ordained.

Afternoon—Communion service.

Evening—Deacons ordained. Missionary addresses by C. Ude and L. Scheuerman. Missionary offering, \$1,000.00.

1869

Conference met April 8, 1869, at Bainbridge.

No bishop being present, J. Meck opened the session. Rev. M. J. Miller was elected chairman.

Secretary, J. M. Haug; assistant, S. Henne.

Preachers were ordered to change places of entertainment every day during the session.

Licensed: E. K. DeWitt was licensed to preach.

Suspended: Geo. Haller was suspended for 6 months.

Located: E. Evans and D. Heininger located for health and family reasons.

Withdrawn: L. Engel withdrew from the church.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted C. S. Brown and J. Orth. Deacons' orders to E. Boyer and E. Weiss.

Itinerancy: C. Thomas, Ed. Boyer and Peter Wiest were received into the itinerancy. Jacob Roth and Wm. Riemke are to serve under the presiding elder.

Dearborn Mission church reported too small. There is opportunity to sell. Committee appointed to oversee sale.

Boundaries:

(a) Colon, Mendon, Brady and Wakeshma were taken from St. Joseph and constituted Colon Circuit.

(b) Lima, Van Buren, Kleins and Constantine were taken from St. Joseph and constituted Lima Circuit.

(c) The remainder of the circuit retains the name St. Joseph Circuit.

(d) Blouchs, Bittners, Kleins, Monclova, Whitehouse, Boyers were taken from Blissfield and constituted Whitehouse Circuit.

(e) LaSalle was taken from Blissfield and added to Monroe.

(f) Fremont appointment was taken from Genesee and attached to Sebewaing.

(g) Cohoctah, Byron, Gaines and Genoa were detached from Genesee and attached to Owosso. The remainder of Genesee was constituted Flint Circuit.

(h) Kalamazoo shall be taken up as a mission and given a pastor if possible.

(i) Marshall shall be taken from St. Joseph District and added to Detroit District.

Salary: Almost every preacher had received his salary in full. The balance in the conference treasury was divided among those having salary deficits.

Resolution: A strong resolution urging support for our schools was passed.

The conference declined to coöperate with other conferences in forming a Church Building Society.

The presiding elders were requested to hold district meetings on each district and all preachers were required to attend.

Local trustee boards were urged to see that their pastor received 25% for table costs. (See action in 1866.)

Reported:

That Flint church cost	\$6,400.00
Balance due	2,300.00
That St. Joseph church cost	2,030.00
Due on pledges	339.50
Balance uncovered by pledges	447.87

Hersey: Mr. Platcher of Hersey offered two lots and all the lumber for a church provided building operations are begun within two years. Conference accepted the offer and appointed the presiding elder of Detroit District and missionary of Osceola Mission and Henry Bittner as a building committee.

Sermons: The preachers of the conference were ordered to preach a series of missionary sermons from December to February.

Appropriations: Two thousand and forty-five dollars were appropriated to the missions of the conference.

Appointments:

ST. JOSEPH DISTRICT, M. J. Miller, Presiding Elder; St. Joseph Circuit, E. B. Miller; Lima, Peter Wiest; Colon, C. S. Brown; Berrien, E. Boyer; Bainbridge, John Meck; Blissfield, R. Spatz; Whitehouse, J. Borough; Fulton, D. C. Rohland; Fremont, B. F. Wade and J. Roth; Monroe, S. Copley; St. Joseph Mission, J. M. Haug; Kalamazoo Mission, to be supplied.

DETROIT DISTRICT, A. Nicolai, Presiding Elder; Marshall, C. Thomas and Wm. Riemke; Barry, C. Dieke; Ionia, S. Henne; Osceola, J. Orth; Owosso, C. Ude and C. S. Weisbrod; Flint, C. Roehm; Sebewaing, E. Weiss; Capac, J. M. Fuchs; Detroit, M. Speck and another; Ann Arbor, J. Paulin.

Sunday was a blessed day. Communion observed.

1870

Conference met in Zion's church (Freedom), Washtenaw County, April 7, 1870.

Bishop J. J. Esher presided.

Secretary, J. M. Haug; assistants, S. Henne and S. Copley.

Committee to recognize Bishop Long's death: J. M. Haug, C. Roehm and J. Borough.

Licensed: S. Heininger, E. H. Hess, J. H. Keeler, G. Kolb and Joe Timm were granted license to preach.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted B. F. Wade. Elders' orders were voted S. Copley.

Itinerancy: E. H. Hess, J. H. Keeler, W. Riemke, S. Heininger, T. N. Davis and Jacob Young were received into the itinerancy.

Boundaries:

- (a) The Fremont appointment taken from Sebewaing and added to Flint.
- (b) Tawas City and environs shall be taken up as a mission.
- (c) The Bangor appointment taken from Bainbridge and joined with South Haven, forming South Haven Mission.
- (d) Hillsdale and environs shall be taken up as a new mission.
- (e) Oronoko appointment taken from Berrien Circuit and added to St. Joseph Mission.
- (f) Napoleon and Mollenkamps placed with Ann Arbor Circuit.
- (g) Kalamazoo to be left open.
- (h) The conference was divided into three districts: Flint, Adrian and Three Rivers Districts.

Religious Education: A resolution stressing education, suggesting four months of the year for catechetical instruction and urging preachers to personally take part in Sunday-school work was passed.

Elected: M. J. Miller was reelected and J. Meck newly elected to the office of presiding elder.

Collecting:

- (a) The pastor of Osceola Mission was given permission to collect for the Hersey church within the bounds of the conference.
- (b) J. M. Fuchs was given permission to collect for building of Burnside church.
- (c) The pastors of Flint and St. Joseph churches were given permission to collect for their church debts.

Salaries:

- (a) The balance in the missionary treasury was distributed among missionaries who did not get their salaries in full.
- (b) The balance in the conference treasury was distributed among pastors on circuits with deficits in salary.

It was reported that nearly every pastor had received his salary in full.

Renaming: Hillsdale Mission was changed to Litchfield Mission and left without a pastor for the present. Berrien Circuit was changed to Portage Prairie Circuit.

Stationing:

ADRIAN DISTRICT, A. Nicolai, Presiding Elder; Fulton Circuit, B. F. Wade; Whitehouse, J. Borough; Blissfield, C. Dieke; Monroe, J. H. Keeler; Detroit, J. M. Fuchs and E. H. Hess; Ann Arbor, J. Paulin; Marshall, J. M. Haug and assistant; Litchfield, D. C. Rohland.

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT, M. J. Miller, Presiding Elder; Fremont, C. S. Brown and J. Rood; Lima, C. Thomas; St. Joseph Circuit, P. Wiest and T. N. Davis; Colon, S. Copley; Portage Prairie, E. Boyer; Bainbridge, C. Ude; St. Joseph Mission, J. Young; South Haven, E. B. Miller.

FLINT DISTRICT, J. Meck, Presiding Elder; Capac, R. Spatz and K. Pfeffer; Flint, M. Speck; Owosso, C. Roehm and C. S. Weisbrod; Ionia, W. Riemke; Barry, J. Orth; Osceola, S. Henne; Sebewaing, S. Heininger; Tawas City, E. Weiss.

Sunday: B. F. Wade ordained deacon in the morning.

Communion service in the afternoon and S. Copley ordained elder.

Missionary offering, \$832.00.

1871

Conference met at Salem church (Lima), Lagrange County, Indiana, April 6, 1871.

Bishop J. J. Esher presided.

Secretary, J. M. Haug; assistants, S. Henne and S. Copley.

Located: J. Paulin and E. Boyer because of family affairs and P. Wiest on account of health to a local relation.

Licensed: J. W. Loose, Louis Brumm, Jacob Lang, Louis Kemmerling, Carl Schaefer, F. Schweitzer and F. Dietrick were licensed to preach.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted E. Weiss, John Orth, and D. C. Rohland. Deacons' orders were voted J. H. Keeler, Wm. Riemke and E. H. Hess.

Credentials were voted Karl Pfeffer.

Boundaries:

(a) Litchfield Mission shall be attached to Marshall Circuit. Appointments south of Hillsdale shall be attached to Fremont Circuit.

(b) Royalton and Feathers from St. Joseph Mission and Avery and Harner's from Portage Prairie shall constitute Lake Shore Circuit.

(c) The city of Niles and environs shall be cared for by the pastor of Portage Prairie.

(d) Benton Harbor and environs shall be cared for by the pastor of St. Joseph Mission.

(e) Sebewaing shall have two pastors.

(f) Tawas City shall be discontinued.

(g) Grand Traverse Region shall be taken up as a mission.

Appointments: F. Schweitzer, J. Lang, J. W. Loose, J. Rood, L. Kemmerling, L. Brumm and O. Ragatz were referred to the presiding elders for appointments.

Collection: Each presiding elder, each elder and each deacon is to collect \$25.00 and each assistant preacher is to collect \$10.00 and send it to the pastor at Flint for the debt by October 1, 1871. J. Meck, E. Weiss and S. Heininger were appointed a committee to borrow money to pay bills due on the Flint church.

Conference ordered all money in the conference treasury loaned to Flint.

St. Joseph: The missionary of St. Joseph was granted permission to collect for the church debt.

Adrian church was ordered sold and proceeds of sale loaned to Flint church, to be returned in case of rebuilding in Adrian.

Delegates to General Conference: J. Meck, M. J. Miller, A. Nicolai and J. M. Haug. Alternates, C. Ude and Philip Schwiller.

District meetings were ordered for each district and preachers required to attend.

Sunday: Morning—Bishop preached. Deacons ordained.

Afternoon—Elders ordained.

1872

Conference met at Woodland church at 8:30 A. M., April 4, 1872.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, J. M. Haug; assistants, S. Copley and J. H. Keeler.

Received: L. Scheuerman by credentials from Ohio Conference.

License: Wm. Schaefer, A. Plocher and John Haughtby granted license to preach.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted B. F. Wade. Deacons' orders were voted T. N. Davis, J. Young and S. Heininger.

Superannuated: J. Trometer superannuated because of ill health.

Withdrawn: John Storrer and Mike Brumm withdrew from the church.

Elected: L. Scheuerman was elected presiding elder.

Retired: A. Nicolai and C. F. Weisbrod retired because of ill health.

Credentials were granted T. N. Davis.

Itinerancy: O. Ragatz, J. Paulin, L. Kemmerling, J. W. Loose, F. Schweitzer and J. Lang were received into the itinerancy.

Boundaries:

(a) Ridgeway and Memphis appointments were detached from Capac and constituted Ridgeway Mission.

(b) Burnside was detached from Capac and Fremont (Tuscola County) from Flint and constituted Burnside Mission.

(c) Mason County and environs were ordered taken up as Mason Mission.

(d) The Fremont and Gilead appointments with places located between these two points shall be constituted Fremont Circuit.

(e) The remaining appointments of the Fremont Circuit shall be constituted Amboy Circuit.

(f) South Haven Mission shall be attached to Bainbridge Circuit.

(g) Jackson shall be discontinued but if possible a preacher shall be stationed there.

(h) Litchfield and environs shall be taken up as a mission.

Flint: Debt on the Flint church was reported at \$1,624.76. Debt on the St. Joseph church was reported as being \$546.49.

Adrian: Trustees of the Adrian church refused to sign deed for its sale. Conference ordered the trustees to sell the church.

Salary standards: First two years of service—single preachers, \$150.00 and rent; married preachers, \$200.00 and rent. After two years—single preachers, \$300.00 and rent. Presiding elders are to have the same salary as other preachers and are to collect their salary from the quarterly conferences.

Convention: The first Sunday-school convention, held during the year, was reported to have been a great blessing. Two conventions are to be planned for the coming year.

Camp Meeting: A Michigan Conference camp meeting was ordered for the coming year and J. M. Haug and C. Ude appointed to make arrangements.

Hersey has an opportunity to purchase a church for \$300.00. Henry Bittner offers to be responsible for one-half if the community will raise the balance. A committee was appointed to decide the matter.

1873

Conference convened March 27, 1873 in church near Delta, Ohio.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, J. M. Haug; assistants, S. Copley and S. Henne.

Complaints: Entered against J. Borough. He was later exonerated. C. Pfeiffle was reported as having abandoned his work without consent of the presiding elder or conference. George Kolb, local preacher, was deposed and expelled from the church.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted J. Lang, J. W. Loose, L. Kemmerling, F. Dietrich, F. Schweitzer and L. Brumm. Elder's orders were voted J. H. Keeler, E. H. Hess and Wm. Riemke.

Licensed: F. Mueller, A. Russel, Wm. Berge and Peter Berg were licensed to preach.

Itinerancy: F. Dietrich, F. Mueller, T. N. Davis, Wm. Berge, L. Brumm, J. Schmaus and F. Schweitzer were received into the itinerancy.

Retired: C. Roehm and Jonas Borough retired from active service.

Withdrawn: Elias Loose and John Haightby left the church without credentials.

Received: J. Schmaus was received by credentials from the Ohio Conference.

Credentials: Jacob Lang, M. Speck and Christian Thomas were voted credentials.

Resigned: M. J. Miller resigned as presiding elder.

Elected: S. Copley was elected presiding elder.

Boundaries:

(a) South Raisenville, Schauers, Kosten and Blaubush shall be taken from Monroe Circuit and together with the City of Monroe constitute Monroe Mission.

(b) The remainder of the circuit shall be known as Monroe Circuit.

(c) The City of Adrian shall be taken up as a new mission.

(d) Saginaw and environs shall be constituted Saginaw Mission.

(e) Bangor shall be detached from Bainbridge Circuit and with South Haven constitute South Haven Mission.

(f) Litchfield Mission shall be joined with Amboy Circuit and served by two pastors.

Collector: S. Heininger was appointed conference collector for church debts. Flint is to raise \$300.00 and St. Joseph \$200.00 on their debts and conference will assume the balance.

College: The conference voted to join the Northwestern College compact and elected J. M. Haug its first trustee of the college and Union Biblical Institute to which reference is made for the first time in this connection.

L. Scheuerman, presiding elder of Adrian District, was allowed time for a trip to Europe.

J. Meck and pastor at Flint were appointed as a committee to take steps toward incorporating the conference.

1874

Conference met in Trinity church, Flint, April 2, 1874.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, S. Henne; assistant, C. Ude.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted F. Mueller, E. K. DeWitt, J. Schmaus, G. Haller, W. Berge, G. Kuttler and J. Miller. Elders' orders were voted S. Heininger and J. Young.

Licensed: G. A. Hettler, J. Gingrich, J. N. Klein, P. Bittner were granted license to preach. J. A. Frye was also granted license on condition that he present a written recommendation from his class.

Resigned: S. Copley resigned as presiding elder on account of ill health.

Elected: J. Meck was reëlected and J. M. Haug newly elected as presiding elders.

Itinerancy: Wm. Schaefer, G. Haller and F. Zeller were received into the itinerancy. M. J. Miller was retained in the itinerancy one year without an appointment.

Located: O. Ragatz located on account of family affairs.

Collectors: The treasurer of Northwestern College was invited to collect within the bounds of the conference. The pastor at Ridgeway

was permitted to collect on the Detroit District for church debts. The pastor at Capac was permitted to collect for the Burnside debt.

Collection: All pastors were ordered to take a special offering on Thanksgiving Sunday or shortly after to liquidate the missionary debt of \$275.50.

Borrowing: The treasurer of the Missionary Society was ordered to borrow money to pay salaries of the missionaries. (This was the first action to borrow for this purpose. W. H. W.).

Jackson: A church is to be builded in Jackson. The proceeds of sale of the Adrian church to be loaned the Jackson project without interest. The conference is to be without obligation in the building.

Marshall: The pastors of Litchfield Mission and Marshall Circuit are permitted to collect for a church in Marshall.

Collector: S. Heininger was appointed as collector or agent for church debts.

1875

Conference met Thursday April 1, 1875, at Zion's church, LaSalle, Monroe County, Mich.

Bishop R. Yeakel presiding.

Secretary, E. Weiss; assistants, F. Schweitzer and J. H. Keeler.

Complaints were entered against L. Scheuerman, presiding elder, and Peter Berg. Peter Berg was reprimanded by the Bishop and refused ordination. L. Scheuerman was found guilty and required to acknowledge his wrong, show signs of repentance and do better in the future.

Resigned: L. Scheuerman resigned as presiding elder. Due to serious illness, J. Meck resigned as presiding elder and retired from active service.

Located: C. Deike located because of ill health.

Died: C. Beagle (Beuckel) died during the year.

Withdrawn: M. J. Miller was reported as having withdrawn from the Church. (This is in question).

Licensed: N. G. Curtis, A. Frye, Geo. Provost, C. C. Staffeld and Peter Brumm were granted license to preach.

Itinerancy: John Miller, P. Berg, C. Roehm, J. Borough, D. Heininger, J. A. Frye, and P. Bittner were received into the itinerancy. C. C. Staffeld, D. P. Rumberger, E. K. DeWitt and A. Frye were referred to the presiding elders for appointment.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted F. Schweitzer, J. W. Loose, L. Kemmerling, L. Brumm and F. Dietrick. Deacons' orders were voted Wm. Schaefer.

Elected: S. Copley and E. Weiss were elected presiding elders.

Delegates: J. M. Haug, J. Meck, S. Copley and E. Weiss were

elected delegates to General Conference. M. J. Miller and J. M. Fuchs were elected alternates.

Credentials: L. Scheuerman was granted credentials.

Debts:

Conference debts reported to be	\$2,045.00
Collected by Heininger	662.95
Remaining debt	<u>\$1,382.05</u>

Boundaries:

- (a) Dearborn was taken from Detroit and made a station.
- (b) The City of Flint was taken from Flint Circuit and made a mission. Remainder of circuit called Oregon Circuit.
- (c) Sondright, Olds and Woodbridge detached from Fremont Circuit and added to West Unity.
- (d) Remainder of Fremont Circuit, with Colon shall be added to Lima and served by two pastors.
- (e) Nobs, Marcellus, Pine Grove, and Mt. Zion of St. Joseph Circuit, with three appointments in Cass County from Portage Prairie Circuit shall be constituted Marcellus Circuit.
- (f) Mendon, Brady and Gottschalk from Colon Circuit shall be added to St. Joseph Circuit and named Park Circuit.
- (g) Avery from Lakeshore Circuit, with the City of Niles shall be added to Portage Prairie Circuit.
- (h) The remainder of Lakeshore Circuit shall be added to Bainbridge and served by two pastors.
- (i) The Lansing appointment and environs with Genoa and Cohoctah shall be detached from Owosso Circuit and called Lansing Mission.
- (j) Maple Hill, Knotmal and environs shall be taken from Osceola Mission and constituted Maple Hill Mission.
- (k) Osceola Mission shall be constituted a circuit.
- (l) Cass City and Ellington shall be taken from Tuscola Mission and with Sebewaing constitute a new circuit.
- (m) The remaining appointments of Tuscola Mission, with Burnside of Capac Circuit, shall constitute Fremont Mission.
- (n) Grand Traverse Mission shall be divided, the eastern part called Traverse Bay Mission and the western part called Leelenau Mission.
- (o) Flint Mission and Oregon Circuit were transferred from Detroit to Saginaw District.
- (p) Fremont and Sanilac Mission were transferred from Saginaw to Detroit District.
- (q) Jackson Mission was transferred from Detroit to St. Joseph District.

S. Heininger accepted a call from the Mission Board to go as missionary to Oregon.

Each presiding elder was ordered to collect \$100.00 on his district to pay off the debt of \$205.52 on the missionary society.

National Jubilee: In the year of 1876—National Jubilee—each member of the church shall give \$1.00 to Northwestern College. The presiding elders shall see that this is collected.

Collecting: Pastors at Marshall, Saginaw and Detroit were given permission to solicit for church debts.

1876

Conference met at Ionia, April 6, 1876.

Bishop J. J. Esher presided.

Secretary, S. Henne; assistant, F. Schweitzer.

W. Berge took no work on account of family affairs. J. Meck was incapacitated because of ill health. C. Deike was reported as having withdrawn from the church.

A Halmhuber, missionary to Japan from Germany attended the conference and was received in an advisory relation.

Received: D. P. Rumberger of the Central Pa. Conference and R. Riegel from the Indiana Conference were received by credentials.

Licensed: F. Klump, F. Walter and F. S. Root were licensed to preach.

J. K. Pontius, G. Provost, J. Frankhouser, W. Schmidt, F. Timm, A. Russel, and F. F. Meyer presented themselves for work.

Itinerancy: C. C. Staffeld, A. Frye, F. F. Meyer, D. P. Rumberger, J. Frankhouser, R. Riegel and J. K. Pontius were received into the itinerancy.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted G. Haller, F. Mueller, D. P. Rumberger and W. Berge. Deacons' orders were voted G. A. Hettler, F. Timm, P. Bittner and P. Berg.

Rule: A better rule for the examination of Junior preachers adopted.

Referred: C. Schmidt was referred to the Stationing Committee.

Boundaries:

(a) Fremont Mission (Tuscola County) discontinued and appointments placed with Oregon.

(b) Burnside was transferred to Capac Circuit.

(c) Ypsilanti transferred to Dearborn Circuit.

(d) Sanilac Mission shall have two preachers.

(e) Caro, Ellington and Cass City shall constitute a circuit.

(f) Thedford, Schwartz Creek and Gaines were placed with Flint Mission.

(g) Lansing and environs were placed with Owosso and were to be served with two pastors.

(h) Howell, Genoa, Brighton and Cohoctah were constituted Howell Mission.

(i) Bainbridge and Keeler were constituted Bainbridge Circuit.

(j) St. Joe, Royalton, Feathers, Piney (?) Lake and Avery were constituted St. Joe Circuit.

(k) Fremont, East Fremont, Gilead and Bethel were constituted Fremont Circuit.

Debts: The districts were obligated to raise money for conference debts as follows:

St. Joseph District	\$580.00
Detroit District	425.00
Saginaw District	425.00

Each district may make its own plans for collecting.

Collecting: The pastor at Saginaw was granted permission to collect on the Saginaw District. The pastor on Owosso Circuit was permitted to collect on the district for Owosso and Chesaning churches. Money collected for new church in Marshall to be used for other debts until Marshall is ready to build.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$657.00.

1877

Conference met Thursday, April 5, 1877 at the Riga church, near Blissfield.

Bishop R. Dubs presided.

Secretary, F. F. Meyer; assistants, J. H. Keeler and F. Schweitzer.

Deposed: J. G. Haller, Sr., was deposed from the ministry and expelled from the church.

Located: C. Roehm and J. Frankhouser located because of ill health.

Licensed: Henry Schneider, Herman Schuknecht, Gordon Wilson, C. C. Stuart and F. A. Hamp were licensed to preach.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted D. W. Schaefer, John Miller and J. Schmaus. Deacons' orders were voted C. C. Staffeld and J. A. Frye.

Itinerancy: F. Klump, D. C. Frey and G. Provost were received into the itinerancy.

Superannuated: J. Borough.

Appointment: H. Schneider, F. A. Hamp and J. Gingrich were referred to the presiding elders for appointment.

Boundaries:

- (a) Monroe Mission was attached to Ida Circuit and called Ida.
- (b) Romeo was attached to Capac.
- (c) Ypsilanti was detached from Dearborn, Oakville from Ida and Northfield from Howell and constituted a circuit.
- (d) Colon was attached to Lima Circuit.
- (e) Avery was attached to Portage Prairie.
- (f) West Unity and Fremont are to be served together.
- (g) Flint and Oregon Circuit are to be served together.
- (h) Sebawaing Circuit and Cass City Mission shall be served together.
- (i) Lansing was detached from Owosso and attached to Howell.
- (j) Bloomers and Gratiot shall be detached from Ionia Circuit and attached to Maple Hill Mission.

(k) Silver Lake shall be taken from Traverse City and attached to Leelenau.

(l) Mason Mission was transferred from Saginaw District to St. Joseph District.

Detroit: The Detroit church is not to be sold at this time.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$80.00 in cash.

1878

Conference met at Litchfield Thursday, April 18, 1878.

Bishop R. Yeakel presiding.

Secretary: F. F. Meyer.

Recovered: J. Meck having recovered his health, returned to active service.

Located: W. Rienke located on account of family conditions and took his credentials. P. Berg, R. Riegel and D. C. Frey located on account of ill health.

Superannuated: J. Trometer and C. Roehm.

Withdrawn: E. Boyer and Gordon Wilson withdrew from the church.

Licensed: W. Binder, August Kuehn, Sr., M. A. Blizzard, Henry Voelker, John Schneider and John Sutherland.

Received: S. Hibbard from Ohio, John Nicolai from Illinois, W. Simmons from Canada and F. E. Erdman from East Pa. Conferences, were received by credentials.

Itinerancy: J. Nicolai, F. A. Hamp, F. E. Walter, J. Y. Gingrich, O. Ragatz, A. Russell, W. Simmons, F. E. Erdman, S. B. Hibbard, J. Frankhouser and H. Schneider were received into the itinerancy.

Orders: F. Klump, A. Frye, G. Provost, A. Russell and D. C. Frey were voted deacons' orders. Elders' orders were voted P. Bittner and G. A. Hettler.

Elected: J. M. Haug was reelected presiding elder. J. M. Fuchs newly elected presiding elder.

Districts: Conference was divided into four districts and stationed as follows: Monroe District, E. Weiss; Three Rivers District, S. Copley; Ionia District, J. M. Fuchs; Flint District, J. M. Haug.

Referred: H. Voelker, W. Binder and W. White were referred to the presiding elders for appointments.

Bay City: Mr. H. Meisel was permitted to address conference in the interests of Bay City.

Chesaning: The trustees at Chesaning were permitted to sell their church and build smaller.

Salaries: The average salary for circuit preachers was \$381.00 and for presiding elders, \$686.33.

Salary standards adopted:

Single probationers	\$150.00
Married probationers	250.00
Single ordained	300.00
Married ordained	500.00

Presiding elders same as married, ordained with traveling expenses and parsonage.

Church Extension Society: The conference voted to organize itself into a Church Building Association. Each pastor is responsible for \$10.00. He may collect it or pay it himself. One-half to be paid by June 15th. Officers elected: President, J. M. Haug; secretary, S. Copley and treasurer, E. Weiss.

Collecting: Permission was given to collect for new churches at Saginaw and Ypsilanti.

Boundaries:

- (a) Bay City shall be taken up as Bay City Mission.
- (b) Greenbush shall be taken from Owosso and constituted Greenbush Mission.
- (c) Duck Lake, Charlesworth and Brookville shall be constituted Springport Mission.
- (d) Petoskey and surrounding community shall be taken up as a mission and supplied if possible.

Offering: Missionary offerings shall be taken at all camp meetings and bush meetings.

The missionary offering on Conference Sunday was \$352.44.

1879

Conference met April 3, 1879 at the Park church, St. Joseph Co. Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, F. F. Meyer; assistants, J. H. Keeler and F. Mueller.

Deposed: Carl Schmidt, local preacher, was deposed from the ministry and expelled from the church.

Located: F. Zeller located on account of ill health and J. Y. Gingrich for family reasons. E. Weiss was granted one year without appointment and P. Bittner, retired.

Withdrawn: F. S. Root was reported as withdrawn.

License to preach was granted A. A. Scheurer, Quinton Walker, W. F. Zander and J. A. Lawrence.

Received: Jacob Roth was received from the Free Methodist church. C. G. Koch was received by credentials from the Ohio Conference and S. Heininger from the Oregon Conference.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted to F. E. Walter and H. Schneider. Elders' orders were voted C. C. Staffeld, W. Simmons and J. A. Frye.

Itinerancy: W. F. Binder, H. Voelker, W. F. Zander, F. Dietrich, C. G. Koch, S. Heininger and J. Young were received into the itinerancy.

Elected: S. Copley and J. Frankhouser were elected presiding elders.

Boundaries: (Important items only included.)

(a) Ypsilanti was discontinued.

(b) Freeland and environs, with Saginaw, are to constitute Freeland Mission.

(c) Good Harbor was transferred from Traverse City to Leelenau.

Offering: The missionary offering on Conference Sunday was \$772.00.

1880

Conference met at East Raisenville, April 8, 1880.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, F. F. Meyer.

Located: G. Provost, J. Schmaus, and O. Ragatz located because of ill health. F. Dietrich and F. E. Walter located on account of family affairs.

Resigned: J. Frankhouser resigned as presiding elder because of ill health.

Withdrawn: F. A. Hamp and N. G. Curtis withdrew from the church.

License to preach was voted W. A. Koehler, W. H. Wagner and N. Wunderlich.

Credentials were voted F. F. Meyer and Peter Bittner.

Received: H. C. Berger, of the Erie Conference, and E. B. Arthur, of the Pittsburgh Conference, were received by credentials.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted W. F. Binder, W. F. Zander and H. Voelker. Elders' orders were voted F. Klump, A. Frye, F. E. Erdman and G. Provost.

Itinerancy: H. C. Berger, J. Borough, A. A. Scheurer, J. Schneider were received into the itinerancy.

Appointments: W. A. Koehler, N. Wunderlich, W. H. Wagner, E. B. Arthur, W. White and C. C. Stuart were recommended to the presiding elders for appointments.

Districts: The conference was divided into three districts.

A vote of confidence was given Bishops Esher and Bowman as against opponents in the church.

Boundaries: (Important items only.)

West Branch and environs were taken up as a mission.

Debts: Every pastor was required to collect fifteen cents per member for church debts. Each presiding elder was required to collect or

pay \$20.00 for the same purpose. All was to be paid before August 1st.

Chesaning: The pastor of Owosso and presiding elder are to collect for the Chesaning church.

Jackson: The pastor at Jackson and the presiding elder are to collect for the Jackson church.

Tawas City: Church was sold for \$55.00.

Petoskey: The pastor at Petoskey was given permission to collect for church at Point Falls (perhaps Boyne Falls).

Litchfield: The pastor at Litchfield given permission to collect for the Litchfield debt.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$921.00.

1881

Conference met April 14, 1881, at the Sharon church, Washtenaw County.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, C. G. Koch; assistant, S. Heininger.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted to A. A. Scheurer and John Schneider. Elders' orders were voted Henry Schneider.

Located: L. Kemmerling and W. Simmons located because of ill health. E. H. Hess took one year without work.

Credentials: M. J. Miller took credentials to Iowa and F. Schweitzer to the Southern Indiana Conference.

Itinerancy: E. B. Arthur, W. A. Koehler, N. Wunderlich, W. H. Wagner and H. Schuknecht were received into the itinerancy.

Boundaries: (Important items only.)

Maple Grove, Castleton and Hope appointments were constituted a circuit.

Sabbath: Strong resolutions were passed on the sanctity of the sabbath.

Debt: A total of \$3,279.24 was received by the treasurer for missions during the year. A missionary debt of \$200.00 remains.

History: The presiding elders and C. G. Koch were appointed to collect material for the history of the Evangelical Church in Michigan.

Sunday Schools: Reports showed an increase in Sunday schools.

Salary: The average salary of ministers was \$331.00.

Debt: Preachers of the conference were required to bring 10 cents per member for conference debt until the debt is paid. Presiding elders are to collect \$10.00 each for the same purpose.

Sale: The sale of the Flint District house is advised by the trustees.

Jackson: A committee reported that the work in Jackson would never succeed so long as connected with the country.

Detroit: The Detroit trustees were denied the privilege of selling the church and parsonage for the purpose of building a suitable church.

Conference secretary was voted \$5.00 for his work.

Offering: The conference missionary offering amounted to \$550.00.

Sunday: The people remained in the church Sunday afternoon until six o'clock because of storm and no evening service was held because of heavy rain.

1882

Conference met Thursday, April 6, 1882, at the Oregon church.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, C. G. Koch; assistants, J. H. Keeler and F. Mueller.

Credentials: F. E. Erdman took credentials.

Complaint was made against J. M. Fuchs because of disciplinary procedures during the year. He was exonerated.

Deposed: F. Dietrich was deposed and expelled during the year.

Incapacitated: J. Frankhouser, J. Nicolai, E. H. Hess, L. Kemmerling, C. Roehm, G. Provost, J. Trometer and J. Paulin were reported incapacitated.

Inactive: C. G. Koch, J. K. Pontius and B. F. Wade remain one year in the itinerancy without appointment.

Withdrawn: O. Ragatz withdrew from the church.

Removed: J. Sutherland has moved outside the bounds of the conference.

Received: A. J. Gramley received by credentials from Des Moines Conference.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted H. Schuknecht, N. Wunderlich, and W. A. Koehler. Elders' orders were voted W. F. Binder, W. F. Zander and H. Voelker.

Elected: J. M. Haug was reëlected and J. H. Keeler and F. Mueller newly elected as presiding elders.

Received by credentials: L. B. Eaton from the M. E. Church, J. Drinkwater as a local elder from the Ohio Conference and J. G. Haller, Jr., from the Minnesota Conference.

Boundaries: (Important items only.)

(a) Grand Rapids is to be taken up as a mission.

(b) Benton Harbor is to be taken up as an appointment.

(c) Lansing Mission is to be discontinued.

(d) Elk Rapids is to be served with Traverse City.

(e) Northern Michigan was organized as a missionary district with Grand Traverse, Leelenau and Petoskey appointments.

Salary: Any deficit in salary shall be paid by the conference. The average salary was \$402.00.

1883

Conference met at Lima church, April 5, 1883.

Bishop R. Dubs presiding.

Secretary, C. G. Koch; assistants, S. Heininger and F. Klump.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted J. Schneider and A. A. Scheurer. Deacons' orders were voted W. H. Wagner and W. White.

License to preach was granted August Winters, L. V. Soldan and Carl Schaefer.

Died: R. Spatz died during the year.

Incapacitated: E. H. Hess, P. Bittner, C. G. Koch, J. Frankhouser, J. Nicolai, J. Borough and L. Kemmerling are incapacitated for work. W. F. Binder was reported in poor health.

Elected: S. Copley was reëlected as presiding elder.

Delegates to General Conference: J. M. Haug, S. Copley, S. Heininger, J. M. Fuchs and E. Weiss. Alternates, C. K. Koch and L. Brumm.

Boundaries: (Important items only.)

(a) South Rives and Rives from Jackson with Charlesworth and Brookfield from Marshall are constituted Rives Circuit.

(b) Trout Creek and Paradise from Marcellus with Constantine and Florence from Lima shall constitute Bristol Mission.

(c) The New Mission taken up in Isabella and Gratiot Counties shall be united with Maple Hill and Carson City to form Mt. Pleasant Mission.

(d) Imlay City shall be taken from Capac and with Burnside and Goodland shall constitute Imlay City Circuit.

(e) Other appointments of Burnside Mission with Bridgehampton and Fremont shall constitute Marlette Mission.

(f) Greenbush shall be changed to Eureka.

(g) Manistee and environs shall be taken up and supplied with a pastor.

Collecting: The pastor of Grand Rapids shall be permitted to collect on Ionia District for a new church.

It was reported that \$723.00 had been collected in Detroit and \$713.85 from Flint and Monroe Districts, a total of \$1,436.85 in cash and pledges, for lots for new church in Detroit. The balance of the conference to be canvassed that year.

Petoskey reported \$112.00 on hand for a new building.

Marshall reported ready to build a church and requested money raised for that purpose.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$1,100.00.

1884

Conference met at Portage Prairie Tuesday, April 3, 1884.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, F. Klump; assistant, J. A. Frye.

Rules: Conference rules were amended.

Died: W. F. Binder died during the year.

License to preach was granted Geo. Johnson, S. P. Krause, W. F. Vogel, C. Vincent, H. Holtzman, A. E. Bogen, P. Scheurer, C. W. Ross, C. Krueger, N. Frye and J. A. Swenk.

Credentials were granted H. C. Berger, W. F. Zander and Rueben Riegel. Because of election as General Missionary Secretary Rev. S. Heininger took credentials to the Ohio Conference.

Received: J. F. Schaefer and H. T. Strauch were received by credentials from the Ohio Conference.

Orders: Elders' orders were voted H. Schuknecht, W. A. Koehler and N. Wunderlich.

Itinerancy: H. T. Strauch, J. J. Barnhart and A. Winters were received into the itinerancy.

Boundaries:

- (a) Three Rivers shall be taken up as a mission.
- (b) Bangor was discontinued and West Bangor attached to Bainbridge.
- (c) Kasson, Empire and Frankfort shall constitute Frankfort Mission.
- (d) Leelanau was granted permission to sell their parsonage (a log building).

Debts: Detroit and Jackson were granted permission to collect for church debts.

Journal: The first *Conference Journal* was ordered published. One thousand copies to be printed, selling at 5 cents per copy.

Stationing: To show the development in a period of twenty years the appointments are given herewith.

MONROE DISTRICT, J. H. Keeler, Presiding Elder; Monroe, A. J. Gramley; Erie, J. W. Loose; Blissfield, J. Young; Whitehouse, S. B. Hibbard; Fulton, A. A. Scheurer; West Unity, J. Drinkwater; Rives, C. Vincent; Jackson, J. A. Frye; Litchfield, J. J. Bernhardt; Fremont, D. P. Rumberger; Park, C. S. Brown; Three Rivers, S. P. Krause; Marcellus, H. T. Strauch; Lima, John Snyder; Bristol, J. A. Swenk.

IONIA DISTRICT, J. M. Haug, Presiding Elder; Ionia, Henry Schneider; Caledonia, L. Brumm; Woodland, H. Schuknecht; Grand Rapids, L. V. Soldan; Bainbridge, J. Miller; St. Joseph, J. Schmaus; Portage Prairie, G. A. Hettler; Marshall, S. Henne; Washtenaw, J. Orth; Howell, D. Heininger; Byron, Geo. Johnson.

NORTH MICHIGAN DISTRICT, F. Mueller, Presiding Elder; Petoskey, W. A. Koehler; Traverse City, A. Frye; Frankfort, A. Winter; Manistee, C. W. Ross; Riverton, W. H. Wagner; Hersey, E. Weiss; Mt. Pleasant, E. H. Hess; Saginaw, N. Wunderlich; Bay City, J. G. Haller; Flint, F. Klump; Sebawaing, D. W. Schaefer; Maple Hill, A. E. Bogen.

DETROIT DISTRICT, S. Copley, Presiding Elder; Owosso, J. M. Fuchs; Eureka, P. Scheurer; Cass City, B. F. Wade; Minden, H. Voelker; Lexington, C. Krueger; Capac, C. Ude; Ridgeway, G. J. Martin; Dearborn, J. Meck; Detroit, C. C. Staffeld; Imlay, J. K. Pontius; Carleton, H. Spitler.

1885

Conference met at Ionia Thursday, April 2, 1885.

Bishop R. Dubs presiding.

Secretary, F. Klump; assistants, H. Schneider and J. A. Frye.

Deaths: P. Schuille died during the year.

License was granted A. Norton, J. J. Schuknecht, F. C. Berger, W. Snyder and J. J. Marshall.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted J. Y. Gingrich and A. Winter. Elders' orders to W. H. Wagner.

Itinerancy: Geo. Johnson, J. Schmaus, J. A. Swenk, C. Vincent, C. Krueger, F. E. Walter, P. Scheurer, A. E. Bogen, C. W. Ross and J. C. Dietrich.

Credentials were voted H. Schuknecht.

Withdrawn: J. Wheeler surrendered his license.

Provision for a supervising committee was referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

Pastors and presiding elders, by resolution, were required to live on their respective charges.

Delegate: E. Weiss was elected delegate to the Board of Missions.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$740.00.

1886

Conference convened at Reed City Thursday, April 1, 1886.

Bishop R. Dubs presiding.

Secretary, F. Klump; assistants, H. Schneider and J. A. Frye.

Death: Benjamin Keller died during the year.

License was granted G. J. Kirn, W. Clemens, J. Cook, D. Strohl, W. D. Gamertsfelder, J. M. Bittner and L. B. Felix.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted Geo. Johnson, J. C. Dietrich, C. W. Ross, L. V. Soldan, J. A. Swenk, C. Krueger, P. Scheurer, and A. E. Bogan. Elders' orders to F. E. Walter.

Itinerancy: F. C. Berger, L. V. Soldan, N. Frye, J. J. Marshall, and F. Kraushaar.

Received: By credentials, A. Halmhuber, from Germany, and F. Kraushaar, from the Illinois Conference.

Withdrawn: Quinton Walker.

Elected: E. Weiss, C. C. Staffeld and G. A. Hettler were elected presiding elders.

District Stationing: Monroe District, S. Copley; Flint District, C. C. Staffeld; St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler; Reed City District, E. Weiss.

Salary Standard: Elders and presiding elders not less than \$500.00 with dwelling. Presiding elders to have traveling expenses extra. Deacons not less than \$350.00. Probationers not less than \$200.00.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$1,500.00.

1887

Conference convened Thursday, March 24, 1887, at Park, St. Joseph County.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, F. Klump; assistants, H. Schneider and J. A. Frye.

Deaths: P. Brumm, local preacher, and A. Winter.

License was granted E. L. Alles, A. Ostroth, H. B. Geringer, C. C. Weber, E. Rath, F. Koehler and James D. Baker.

Orders: Deacons' orders were voted F. C. Berger, N. Frye, J. J. Marshall, M. W. Snyder and C. Vincent. Elders' orders to F. Kraushaar.

Itinerancy: W. Berge and M. W. Snyder were received into the itinerancy.

Received: Samuel McEwen, from the M. P. Church, and J. M. Roth from the M. E. Church.

Credentials: J. H. Keeler and E. B. Miller to Kansas and F. Mueller to the Erie Conference.

Delegates to the General Conference: G. A. Hettler, S. Copley, E. Weiss, J. Meck, J. M. Haug and C. C. Staffeld.

Family Pew: Ninety-four members of the Reed City Mission petitioned the conference for the right to sit together as families in public worship. The request was granted.

District Stationing: Monroe District, S. Copley; Flint District, C. C. Staffeld; Reed City District, E. Weiss, and St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler.

1888

Conference convened Thursday, April 5, 1888, at Howell, Mich.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, F. Klump; assistants, H. Schneider and J. A. Frye.

Deaths: J. K. Pontius, J. Kaiser, Mrs. H. T. Strauch, Mrs. N. Frye and Mrs. J. A. Swenk.

License was granted to W. F. Kring, E. M. Renner, W. Shirey, W. C. Swenk, A. Kaechele.

Orders: Deacons' orders voted G. J. Kirn, W. F. Vogel and J. M. Bittner. Elders' orders were voted Geo. Johnson, L. V. Soldan, A. E. Bogen, C. Krueger, C. W. Ross, J. C. Dietrich and P. Scheurer.

Itinerancy: G. J. Kirn, W. F. Vogel and J. M. Bittner.

Withdrawn: M. W. Snyder.

Credentials: To J. J. Bernhardt, D. Heining, F. Kraushaar and A. J. Gramley.

Received: A. M. Haddix by credentials from the U. B. Church. O. Ragatz was also received again into the conference.

District Stationing: Monroe District, S. Copley; Flint District, C. C. Staffeld; St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler, and Reed City District, E. Weiss.

Insurance: A committee was appointed on the organization of a Fire Insurance Society.

1889

Conference convened at Woodland, Barry County, Thursday, April 4, 1889.

Devotions: In the absence of the bishop, J. Meck led the devotions. Bishop R. Dubs arrived and presided.

Secretary, H. Schneider; assistants, J. George Haller and J. A. Frye.

Deaths: J. Frankhouser, W. Shirey, L. B. Eaton and Mrs. C. Roehm.

Licensed: J. E. Holsaple, F. W. Dill, W. Bulgrin, J. M. Nyce, E. B. Hubbel, D. C. Schaefer, J. Hommel, J. Sass and G. G. Heximer.

Orders: Deacon—J. J. Schuknecht, C. C. Weber, A. Ostroth, W. D. Gamertsfelder and F. Koehler; elder, F. C. Berger, N. Frye and J. J. Marshall.

Itinerancy: F. Koehler, A. Ostroth, W. D. Gamertsfelder, C. C. Weber and J. J. Schuknecht.

Withdrawn: L. Kemmerling.

District Stationing: Monroe District, S. Copley; Flint District, C. C. Staffeld; St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler, and Reed City District, E. Weiss.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$1,050.00.

1890

Conference convened April 3, 1890, at Cass City, Michigan.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, J. G. Haller; assistants, F. Klump, J. A. Frye and F. C. Berger.

Deaths: C. Roehm and Mrs. S. Henne.

Licensed: C. E. Brumm, W. H. Bishop and C. Van Demark.

Ordained: Deacon—W. F. Kring, A. M. Haddix, W. C. Swenk, E. Rath and A. Kuehn, Sr.; elder, W. F. Vogel, G. J. Kirn and J. A. Swenk.

Itinerancy: E. Rath, W. C. Swenk, A. M. Haddix, A. Russell and W. F. Kring.

Withdrawn: J. Sass.

Credentials: To C. Vincent.

Elected: G. A. Hettler and C. C. Staffeld were reelected presiding elders and J. A. Frye was newly elected.

District Stationing: Flint District, G. A. Hettler; St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye; Reed City District, S. Copley, and Monroe District, C. C. Staffeld.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$700.00.

1891

Conference convened at Portage Prairie April 2, 1891.

Bishop T. Bowman presiding.

Secretary, W. A. Koehler; assistants, F. Klump, German; and F. C. Berger, English.

Deaths: Mrs. L. V. Soldan and Mrs. Paulina Simmons.

Licensed: J. S. Steininger, W. Brown, S. Carmony and Keijers Yoschida. W. Clemens was again placed on the list of probationers.

Ordained: Deacon—G. Heximer, F. W. Dill, W. Bulgrin, J. M. Nyce, J. Hommel and J. E. Holsaple; elder, C. C. Weber, J. M. Bittner, J. J. Schuknecht and F. Koehler.

Itinerancy: G. Heximer, F. W. Dill, J. M. Nyce, W. Bulgrin and J. Hommel.

Withdrawn: J. W. Roth, W. Holtzman, A. Norton, J. A. Lawrence, and S. McEwen. J. D. Becker had moved out of the bounds of the conference.

Credentials: To J. M. Haug, S. Copley and C. Van Demark.

Elected: H. Schneider was elected presiding elder.

District Stationing: Flint District, G. A. Hettler; St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye; Monroe District, C. C. Staffeld, and Reed City District, H. Schneider.

Delegates to General Conference: G. A. Hettler, C. C. Staffeld, J. A. Frye, H. Schneider, J. G. Haller and W. A. Koehler.

Committee: Provision was made for a supervising committee to supervise the building of mission churches and parsonages.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$1,200.00.

1892

Conference convened at East Raisenville, Monroe County, April 7, 1892.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, W. A. Koehler; assistants, C. Krueger, German; F. C. Berger, English.

Death: A. Russell.

Licensed: Geo. Koehler, Herman Fuerstenau and Simon Salsbery.

Ordained: Deacon, C. E. Brumm, A. Kaechele and E. M. Renner. Elder, W. C. Swenk, W. F. Kring and A. Ostroth.

Itinerancy: A. Kaechele, E. M. Renner, J. E. Holsaple and C. E. Brumm.

Credentials: To J. Meck and C. G. Koch. S. Copley returned his credentials to the conference.

Received: H. Huelster by credentials from Wisconsin.

Withdrawn: George Provost.

District Stationing: St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye; Detroit District, C. C. Staffeld; Flint District, G. A. Hettler, and Reed City District, H. Schneider.

Resolution endorsing Young People's Alliance was passed.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$800.00.

1893

Conference convened in Eureka, April 6, 1893.

Bishop W. Horn presiding.

Secretary, W. A. Koehler; assistants, C. Krueger, German; Geo. Johnson, English.

Deaths: P. Alles and Mrs. F. W. Dill.

Charges:

(a) Against Geo. Johnson by P. Scheurer. Settled between them.

(b) Against D. P. Rumberger by G. A. Hettler. Apology by Rumberger.

(c) Against H. Schneider by G. A. Hettler and J. A. Frye. Schneider withdrew.

Ordained: Deacon—J. S. Steininger and W. Brown; elder, J. M. Nyce, F. W. Dill, J. Hommel, J. E. Holsaple, E. Rath and W. Bulgrin.

Itinerancy: J. S. Steininger and W. Brown.

Withdrawn: H. Schneider, Geo. Kuttler and E. B. Hubble.

Elected: F. Klump was elected presiding elder.

District Stationing: Reed City District, F. Klump; Flint District, G. A. Hettler; St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye, and Detroit District, C. C. Staffeld.

Bay City: The Bay City congregation was reported as having withdrawn from the church.

Historical: The presiding elders were appointed a historical committee.

Incorporation: Steps were taken to incorporate the conference.

1894

Conference convened at the Oregon church, Lapeer County, April 5, 1894.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, W. A. Koehler; assistants, Geo. Johnson, English; G. J. Kirn, German. (Later it was Johnson, secretary, and Kirn and N. Wunderlich, assistants.)

Death: C. Krueger.

Charges against C. C. Weber. J. G. Haller questioned by G. A. Hettler before the conference. His explanation was accepted.

Licensed: J. G. Neuber, J. Riebel, L. W. Stipe, D. O. Ruth, A. Bull, J. F. Kirn, and W. Graves.

Ordained: Deacon—H. C. Fuerstenau, Geo. Koehler and Salsbery; elder, A. M. Haddix, A. Kaechele and G. Heximer.

Itinerancy: H. C. Fuerstenau, Geo. Koehler and S. Salsbery.

Credentials: To J. G. Haller and D. W. Gamertsfelder.

Withdrawn: H. Huelster.

Received: Walter Connors from the Evangelical Missionary Church. S. Staebler was received by credentials.

Elected: G. A. Hettler and J. A. Frye were reëlected and W. A. Koehler newly elected as presiding elders.

District Stationing: Detroit District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, J. A. Frye; St. Joseph District, W. A. Koehler; Reed City District, F. Klump.

1895

Conference convened Thursday, April 11, 1895, at Buchanan, Michigan.

Bishop T. Bowman presiding.

Secretary, Geo. Johnson; assistants, G. J. Kirn, English; N. Wunderlich, German.

Deaths: A Parker, local preacher, and L. W. Stipe.

Licensed: Wm. Stipe, E. G. Frye. E. Scott conditional.

Ordained: Elder—J. S. Steininger, E. M. Renner and W. Brown.

Credentials: C. C. Weber.

Received: J. R. Niergarth as a probationer by credentials from the Oregon Conference.

Delegates to General Conference: G. A. Hettler, F. Klump, W. A. Koehler, J. A. Frye, E. Weiss, and H. T. Strauch.

District Stationing: St. Joseph District, W. A. Koehler; Flint District, J. A. Frye; Detroit District, G. A. Hettler; Reed City District, F. Klump.

West Detroit (Waterman Ave.) was taken up as a mission.

1896

Conference convened at Capac April 2, 1896.

Bishop J. J. Esher presiding.

Secretary, G. J. Kirn; assistants, F. C. Berger, English; N. Wunderlich, German.

Deaths: J. Trometer and J. Y. Gingrich.

Licensed: M. A. Oldt, Frank H. Bayles and F. Weber.

Ordained: Deacon—J. Riebel, J. F. Kirn, W. Clemens, J. R. Nier-

garth and J. G. Neuber; elder, H. C. Fuerstenau and Geo. Koehler.

Itinerancy: J. Riebel, J. G. Neuber, J. F. Kirn, W. Clemens and J. R. Niergarth.

Credentials: To A. E. Bogen.

Removed: W. Connors was reported as having moved away during the year.

District Stationing: St. Joseph District, W. A. Koehler; Detroit District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, J. A. Frye; Reed City District, F. Klump.

Historians: The bishop appointed E. Weiss, J. M. Fuchs and S. Copley a "Committee of Historians."

Debt: Special action was taken to liquidate the debt on the Missionary Society amounting to \$5,000.00. (Page 40 of *Journal*.)

Address: T. C. Meckel addressed the conference at the first morning session and in a short time reported \$1,000.00 in cash and pledges for the missionary debt. (Probably conference debt.)

Report: "The committee appointed by the Scientific Religious Association to suggest a plan for establishing our district conventions upon a better basis" reported.

1897

Conference convened at Leighton, Allegan County, Thursday, April 1, 1897.

Bishop W. Horn presiding.

Secretary, G. J. Kirn; assistants, F. C. Berger, English; N. Wunderlich, German.

Death: J. Snyder.

License: O. Y. Schneider, R. N. Holsaple, Burr R. Huston and John Kohn.

Ordained: Deacon—M. A. Oldt, W. B. Oldt and Geo. Brown; elders, S. Salsbery.

Credentials to J. S. Steininger, A. Kaechele and S. Copley.

Received by Credentials: H. A. Luton as a probationer from the M. E. Church; D. J. Feather, as elder, and F. J. Feather, as deacon, from the Free Methodist Church.

Withdrawn: D. C. Schaefer withdrew during the year.

Revoked: The license of A. Bull was revoked.

Elected: F. Klump was reelected as presiding elder.

District Stationing: Reed City District, J. A. Frye; Flint District, F. Klump; Detroit District, G. A. Hettler; St. Joseph District, W. A. Koehler.

Altimos: The presiding elder of the Detroit District and the pastors at South Rockwood and Monroe were appointed a committee to

erect a suitable monument on the grave of Solomon Altimos, first Evangelical missionary to Michigan.

Collector: C. C. Staffeld was appointed as conference collector for the Missionary Society.

Offering: The missionary offering on conference Sunday was \$1,841.00 in cash and pledges.

1898

Conference convened Thursday morning, April 7, 1898, at Nashville, Mich.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, G. J. Kirn; assistants, F. C. Berger, English; N. Wunderlich, German.

Licensed: A. F. Ragatz, I. H. Ewing, D. Robison, P. H. Pohly and Oscar Chaney.

Ordained: Deacon—E. G. Frye and D. O. Ruth; elder, J. R. Niergarth, J. G. Neuber, J. Riebel and J. F. Kirn.

Itinerancy: D. J. Feather, F. J. Feather, M. A. Oldt, E. G. Frye and Geo. Brown.

Withdrawn: Burr R. Huston.

Expelled: W. H. Bishop was expelled during the year.

Received: J. H. Keeler was received by credentials from the Kansas Conference. Clifford Miller also received.

Resigned: F. Klump resigned as presiding elder on account of ill health.

Elected: G. A. Hettler, W. A. Koehler and J. A. Frye were re-elected and G. J. Kirn newly elected presiding elders.

District Stationing: Detroit District, W. A. Koehler; St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, G. J. Kirn; Reed City District, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering amounted to \$1,300 in cash and pledges.

1899

Conference convened Thursday morning April 6, 1899 at Ida.

Bishop T. Bowman presiding.

Secretary, F. C. Berger; assistants, J. R. Niergarth, English; N. Wunderlich, German.

Deaths: C. Ude and D. W. Schaefer.

Licensed: B. Mohr, J. S. Swenk and W. H. Davidson.

Ordained: Deacon—F. H. Weber and O. Y. Schneider; elder—F. J. Feather.

Itinerancy: O. Y. Schneider, F. H. Weber, J. M. Bittner and W. B. Oldt.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE GROUP TAKEN AT NASHVILLE, MICHIGAN, IN 1898



This picture was taken in front of the hotel at Nashville at the session of the Michigan Conference in 1898. The following are the names of those appearing on the picture:

- (1) Rev. J. Borough; (2) Rev. W. A. Koehler, P. E.; (3) Rev. J. A. Frye, P. E.; (4) Bishop S. C. Breyfogel; (5) Rev. G. A. Hettler, P. E.; (6) Rev. G. J. Kinn, P. E.; (7) Rev. A. Nicolai; (8) Rev. Geo. Koehler; (9) Rev. Geo. Johnson; (10) Rev. E. G. Frye; (11) Rev. J. J. Marshall; (12) Rev. N. Wunderlich; (13) Rev. G. Hemmiller; (14) Rev. F. C. Berger; (15) Rev. J. M. Nyce; (16) Rev. S. Salsbery; (17) Rev. J. A. Swenk; (18) Rev. E. Weiss; (19) Rev. W. A. Bulgrin; (20) Rev. J. H. Keeler; (21) Rev. H. Voelker; (22) Rev. D. J. Feather; (23) Rev. W. H. Wagner; (24) Rev. J. Riebel; (25) Rev. P. Scheurer; (26) Rev. P. H. Polly; (27) Rev. J. F. Kinn; (28) Rev. J. Hommel; (29) Rev. E. M. Renner; (30) Rev. A. Halmhuber; (31) Rev. A. A. Scheurer; (32) Rev. N. Frye; (33) Rev. E. Rath; (34) Rev. W. C. Swenk; (35) Rev. D. O. Ruth; (36) Rev. A. Frye; (37) Rev. R. N. Holsaple; (38) Rev. L. V. Soldan; (39) Rev. W. F. Vogel; (40) Rev. W. H. Clemens; (41) Rev. G. G. Heximer; (42) Rev. Geo. Brown; (43) Rev. F. E. Armstrong; (44) Rev. W. F. Kring; (45) Rev. H. Spittler; (46) Rev. F. W. Dill; (47) Rev. A. M. Haddix; (48) Rev. W. C. Berge; (49) Rev. J. M. Fuchs; (50) Rev. F. Koehler; (51) Rev. I. H. Ewing; (52) Rev. J. J. Feather; (53) Rev. L. Brumm; (54) Rev. H. C. Fuerstenau; (55) Rev. J. J. Schuknecht; (56) Rev. C. C. Staffeld; (57) Mrs. J. E. Holsaple; (58) Rev. J. E. Holsaple; (59) Mrs. A. Ostroth; (60) Rev. A. Ostroth; (61) Rev. Wm. Stipe; (62) Rev. F. E. Walter; (63) Rev. Oscar Chancy; (64) Rev. J. R. Niergarth; (65) Rev. M. A. Oldt; (66) Rev. J. Schmaus; (67) Rev. J. G. Neuber.

Credentials: To R. N. Holsaple, M. A. Oldt, J. A. Swenk and N. Wunderlich.

Withdrawn: J. F. Schaefer, H. A. Luton and D. Robinson.

Received: O. P. Schleicher from the Christian Crusaders; W. H. Camfield, local preacher from the M. E. church; Archibald Clark, local deacon from the M. P. church; F. H. Bailey, local deacon from the U. B. church.

Delegates to General Conference: G. J. Kirn, G. A. Hettler, W. A. Koehler, J. A. Frye, F. Klump, and A. Halmhuber. Alternates—H. T. Strauch, F. C. Berger and P. Scheurer.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. A. Frye. Alternate—F. Klump.

District Stationing: St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler; Detroit District, W. A. Koehler; Flint District, G. J. Kirn; Grand Rapids District, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$1,331.00.

1900

Conference convened in Sebewaing April 5, 1900.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, F. C. Berger; assistants, J. R. Niergarth, English; L. V. Soldan, German.

Deaths: J. Paulin.

Licensed: J. A. Halmhuber, J. C. Searls, E. J. Steeby, C. W. Long, S. C. Croff, J. S. Deabler and W. L. Martin.

Ordained: Deacon—W. H. Camfield, P. H. Pohly and I. H. Ewing; elder—E. G. Frye and Geo. Brown.

Credentials: To B. F. Wade.

Withdrawn: J. S. Swenk and W. Graves.

Received: Jacob Staebler by credentials from New York Conference; J. A. Row as a local elder from the U. B. church.

District Stationing: Detroit District, W. A. Koehler; St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, G. J. Kirn; Grand Rapids District, J. A. Frye.

Delegate to the Board of Missions, H. T. Strauch; alternate, W. A. Koehler.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$1,700.00.

1901

Conference convened April 4, 1901 in the First church, Detroit.

Bishop W. Horn, presiding.

Secretary, F. C. Berger; assistants, J. R. Niergarth, English; L. V. Soldan, German.

Deaths: A. Nicolai, O. Ragatz and D. C. Rohland.

Licensed: W. H. Moyer, V. Buxton, and A. H. Butzbach.

Ordained: Deacon—B. Mohr, F. H. Bayles and W. L. Martin.

Itinerancy: B. Mohr, F. H. Bayles, W. L. Martin, H. Decker and F. H. Bailey.

Received: H. A. Decker as a local elder; W. S. McDevitt from the Free Methodist church.

Credentials: To C. Miller.

Resigned: W. A. Koehler resigned as presiding elder because of ill health.

Elected: F. C. Berger was elected presiding elder.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, G. J. Kirn; Detroit District, J. A. Frye; Grand Rapids District, F. C. Berger.

Delegate to the Board of Missions, H. T. Strauch; alternate, W. A. Koehler.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday amounted to \$1,650.00.

1902

Conference convened April 3, 1902 at Hersey, Mich.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, J. M. Nyce, English; L. V. Soldan, German.

Deaths: Bishop J. J. Esher, J. Young, Mrs. J. Young, and Mrs. F. C. Berger.

Licensed: C. H. Howe, Chas. Rodesiler, E. G. Johnson, W. M. Sippell and Max Kesselring.

Ordained: Deacon—S. C. Croff, J. A. Halmhuber, C. W. Long; elder—P. H. Pohly, F. H. Bailey, O. P. Schleicher, D. O. Ruth and W. B. Oldt.

Itinerancy: S. C. Croff, J. A. Halmhuber and C. W. Long.

Received: J. C. Burns of the Platte River Conference and W. D. Gamertsfelder as local deacons; C. J. Gurney as a local preacher from the M. E. church; R. N. Holsaple as a probationer from the Congregational church.

Credentials: To F. Weber.

Withdrawn: Oscar Chaney and W. S. McDevitt.

Elected: G. J. Kirn, G. A. Hettler and J. A. Frye were reelected as presiding elders.

District Stationing: St. Joseph District, G. J. Kirn; Flint District, G. A. Hettler; Detroit District, J. A. Frye and Grand Rapids District, F. C. Berger.

Gift: A contribution of \$100.00 was received from F. C. Berger in memory of his wife.

Salary Standards: Probationers, \$300.00 per year; deacons, \$400.00 per year and rent; elders first two years, \$500.00 and rent; elders after two years, \$600.00 and rent not to exceed \$100.00; presiding elders, \$750.00 and rent not to exceed \$100.00.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday amounted to \$2,100.00.

1903

Conference convened April 2, 1903 in the Sharon church, Wash-tenaw County.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, J. M. Nyce, English; L. V. Soldan, German.

Deaths: S. Henne, Mrs. E. Weiss, Miss Ella Frye, Mrs. J. Borough, and Ivan C. Ewing.

Licensed: D. C. Ostroth, C. B. Stroh, F. H. Horn, W. H. Halmhuber, A. D. Faupel, Charles Richards, F. N. Schleicher and A. J. Hettler.

Ordained: Deacon—J. S. Deabler and John Kohn; elder—B. Mohr, W. H. Camfield and O. Y. Schneider.

Itinerancy: W. R. Currier, W. S. McDevitt.

Received: Wm. Schroeder as a local deacon from the Mennonite church; B. F. Galloway as a probationer from the Wesleyan Methodist church; W. S. McDevitt with credentials as a local elder from the Free Methodist church; W. R. Currier by credentials from the Kansas Conference; A. R. Fisher by credentials from the Minnesota Conference.

Withdrawn: C. W. Long, D. J. McNickle and W. H. Davidson.

Credentials: To J. C. Burns and E. H. Hess.

District Stationing: Grand Rapids District, F. C. Berger; Flint District, G. A. Hettler; Detroit District, J. A. Frye and St. Joseph District, G. J. Kirn.

Delegates to General Conference: G. J. Kirn, J. A. Frye, G. A. Hettler, F. C. Berger, A. Halmhuber and W. A. Koehler; alternates, Geo. Johnson and F. Klump.

Historian: F. Klump was elected Conference Historian.

Deaconess Work: The presiding elders, C. C. Staffeld, A. Halmhuber and S. E. Werner were appointed a committee to consider deaconess work in the Michigan Conference.

Delegate: G. J. Kirn was elected delegate to the Board of Missions; alternate, F. C. Berger.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$2,111.00.

1904

Conference convened April 7, 1904 at Buchanan, Mich.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, J. M. Nyce, English; L. V. Soldan, German.

Deaths: Mrs. G. A. Hettler.

Licensed: H. I. Voelker, S. Linge, S. Moeller, S. McDonald, G. Knechtel and H. A. Drake.

Ordained: Deacon—C. J. Gurney (local), Chas. Rodesiler, E. G. Johnson, W. M. Sippell and C. H. Howe; elder—J. A. Halmhuber, F. H. Bayles, S. C. Croff and W. L. Martin.

Itinerancy: Charles Rodesiler, E. G. Johnson, W. M. Sippell, C. H. Howe, J. Staebler and I. H. Ewing.

Withdrawn: Wm. Schroeder.

Resigned: Due to his appointment as professor at Northwestern College, G. J. Kirn resigned as presiding elder.

Elected: F. Klump was elected presiding elder.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, F. Klump; Detroit District, J. A. Frye; Flint District, G. A. Hettler; Grand Rapids District, F. C. Berger.

W. M. S.: Mrs. E. Cole of Flint spoke as a representative of the Conference Branch W. M. S.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$1,500.00.

1905

Conference convened April 6, 1905 at Elkton, Mich.

Bishop W. Horn presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, J. M. Nyce, English; L. V. Soldan, German.

Deaths: D. P. Rumberger, M. E. Blizzard, C. S. Brown, John McQuillen and Mrs. A. Nicolai.

Licensed: H. A. Frye, E. C. Braun, Frank Schwartz and E. A. Perone.

Ordained: Deacon—R. N. Holsaple, C. B. Stroh, A. D. Faupel, Chas. Richards, F. N. Schleicher, W. H. Halmhuber, W. H. Moyer and Max Kesselring.

Elder:*

Itinerancy: R. N. Holsaple, C. B. Stroh, A. D. Faupel, Charles Richards, F. N. Schleicher, W. H. Halmhuber, W. H. Moyer and Max Kesselring.

* Conference records do not show names of those advanced as elders.

Received with Credentials: John Kirn from the Primitive Holiness Mission; G. W. Coss from the United Brethren church; Samuel Krupp from the Canada Conference; A. J. Mullett from Ohio Conference; W. A. Shelly from the Pittsburgh Conference.

Withdrawn: W. H. Clemens and J. A. Row.

Election: F. C. Berger was reëlected presiding elder.

District Assignments: Detroit District, F. Klump; Flint District, F. C. Berger; St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye; Grand Rapids District, G. A. Hettler.

Student Aid: The Committee on Education urged the raising of a Student Aid Fund to aid seminary students.

Historian: F. Klump resigned as conference historian and A. Halmhuber was elected in his place.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was \$2,000.00.

1906

Conference convened Thursday, April 5, 1906, at Sebewaing.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, J. M. Nyce, English; L. V. Soldan, German.

Deaths: Mrs. D. W. Schaefer, Mrs. G. Heximer, Mrs. J. Schmaus, John W. Schmaus and Gladys Howe.

Ordained:* Deacon—H. I. Voelker, G. Knechtel, A. H. Butzbach, A. J. Hettler and F. H. Horn; elder—W. M. Sippell, J. S. Deabler and E. G. Johnson.

Itinerancy: H. I. Voelker, G. Knechtel, John Kirn, A. H. Butzbach, J. A. Schweitzer, O. C. Penticoff, F. H. Horn and A. J. Hettler.

Received by Credentials: J. A. Schweitzer and O. C. Penticoff from Illinois; J. Wales from Indiana and H. Schuknecht from Washington.

Withdrawn: F. H. Bayles, Geo. Brown and I. H. Ewing.

Credentials: To W. B. Oldt and F. J. Feather.

Elected: G. A. Hettler and J. A. Frye were reëlected presiding elders.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye; Grand Rapids District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, F. C. Berger; Detroit District, F. Klump.

Important mission projects were reported.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering amounted to \$2,200.00.

* The English and German records and the announcement of the Sunday ordination services are not in harmony.

1907

Conference convened Thursday, April 4, 1907, at Reed City.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, W. R. Currier, English; H. Voelker, German.

Deaths: F. H. Weber, Mrs. V. Buxton, Ruth Schuknecht and the mothers of Geo. Johnson, F. C. Berger, the Kirn brothers and Scheurer brothers.

Licensed: C. A. Sanders, W. H. Watson, C. C. Gibson, W. Y. Pohly and C. A. Wilkie.

Ordained: Deacon—D. C. Ostroth and V. Buxton; elder—C. H. Howe, John Kirn, Charles Richards, A. D. Faupel and O. C. Penticoff.

Itinerancy: D. C. Ostroth and H. Schuknecht.

Withdrawn: S. McDonald.

Expelled: W. S. McDevitt was deposed from the ministry and expelled from the church.

Credentials were voted to C. W. Ross and W. M. Sippell.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye; Grand Rapids District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, F. C. Berger; Detroit District, F. Klump.

Delegates to General Conference: Ministerial—F. C. Berger, J. A. Frye, F. Klump, G. A. Hettler, Geo. Johnson, A. Halmhuber, G. J. Kirn and W. A. Koehler; alternates—J. M. Nyce, W. C. Swenk and J. R. Niergarth; lay—H. S. Faust and L. B. Rough; alternate—H. R. Niergarth.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$1,800.00.

1908

Conference convened Thursday, April 2, 1908, in the Leighton church.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, W. R. Currier, English; H. Voelker, German.

Deaths: Frederick Schuknecht, Mrs. G. J. Kirn, Mrs. J. M. Fuchs and the mother of J. R. Niergarth.

Licensed: L. P. May, G. C. Murbach, C. D. Finch and C. M. Early.

Ordained: Deacon—E. C. Braun, S. Moeller, H. A. Frye, C. F. Giese and F. C. Krumling; elder—A. J. Hettler, C. B. Stroh, G. Knechtel and A. H. Butzbach.

Itinerancy: E. C. Braun, S. Moeller, H. A. Frye, C. F. Giese, F. C. Krumling and C. J. Gurney.

Received: H. Bushnell by credentials from the M. P. church.

Credentials: To H. C. Fuerstenau, Geo. Johnson and H. A. Drake.

Elected: F. Klump reelected and W. A. Koehler newly elected presiding elders.

District Assignments: Grand Rapids District, G. A. Hettler; St. Joseph District, J. A. Frye; Detroit District, W. A. Koehler; Flint District, F. Klump.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering, \$2,300.00.

1909

Conference convened Thursday, April 1, 1909, in the West Riverton church, Mason County.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, E. G. Frye, English; J. A. Halmhuber, German.

Deaths: W. R. Currier, J. E. Holsaple, S. B. Hibbard and Mrs. C. C. Gibson.

Licensed: W. F. Boettcher, Philip Howe, Sumner Young, B. E. Belknap, F. C. Schwartz, Frank Yournd, A. D. Nelson and Samuel Ostroth.

Ordained: Deacon—C. C. Gibson, W. H. Watson, C. A. Wilkie, E. A. Perone and E. L. Marsh; elder—D. C. Ostroth.

Itinerancy: C. C. Gibson, W. H. Watson, C. A. Wilkie, E. A. Perone and E. L. Marsh.

Withdrawn: W. H. Moyer and C. Wirth.

Credentials: To E. G. Johnson to the Texas Conference.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, G. A. Hettler; Grand Rapids District, J. A. Frye; Flint District, F. Klump; Detroit District, W. A. Koehler.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering, \$2,550.00.

NOTE: At this conference lay delegates were seated for the first time. By districts the list is as follows: St. Joseph District, J. W. Miller, Frank Koebbe, Wm. Klein, Irving Miller; Grand Rapids District, Byron E. Belknap, Theo. Hutt, Chas. Hauk, H. R. Niergarth; Flint District, H. S. Faust, John Grill, H. Hood, Wm. Schwalm; Detroit District, L. J. Liesemer, E. M. Loose, Dr. G. I. Schellig, A. Waldeck.

It will be of interest that Mr. Henry S. Faust, from Caro, Mich., one of the first lay representatives to be seated in the Michigan Conference, presented a memorial to General Conference in 1903 petitioning for the privilege of lay representation. Four years later provision for lay representation was made by the General Conference.

1910

Conference convened at Blissfield, Mich., Wednesday, April 13, 1910 at 2 P. M.

Bishop W. Horn presiding.

* Secretary, J. R. Niergarth; assistants, E. G. Frye, English; J. A. Halmhuber, German.

Deaths: E. B. Arthur, C. Z. Steward, Mrs. A. Halmhuber and Mrs. J. H. Keeler.

Licensed: G. Raduchel, H. L. Schmidt, W. H. Fairchild, L. S. Davison and E. E. Wood.

Ordained: Elder—H. I. Voelker and C. F. Giese.

Itinerancy: W. A. Shelly.

Received: By credentials—Ross Willson, Sr., as local deacon and Ross Willson, Jr., as a preacher on probation from the Wesleyan Methodist church; C. A. Glass as a local elder from the Free Methodist church.

Credentials: To W. L. Martin to Ohio Conference, W. Bulgrin to the Texas Conference and V. Buxton.

Elected: J. R. Niergarth and Geo. Koehler were elected presiding elders.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, Geo. Koehler; Grand Rapids District, J. R. Niergarth; Flint District, F. Klump; Detroit District, W. A. Koehler.

Collector: J. A. Frye was appointed collector for church debts.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. A. Frye.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering, \$2,000.00.

1911

Conference convened Wednesday, April 12, 1911, at 2 P. M., at Nashville.

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, E. G. Frye; assistants, R. N. Holsaple, English; J. A. Halmhuber, German.

Deaths: E. Weiss, Hazel Ostroth, A. Kaechele.

Licensed: Blair T. Mogle, F. L. Pohly, F. A. Hood, Geo. Bates and W. H. Bishop.

Ordained: Elder—C. J. Gurney, S. Moeller, C. C. Gibson, C. A. Wilkie, W. H. Halmhuber, W. H. Watson and F. C. Krumling; C. F. Smith, I. J. Bicknell and C. W. Lyman were received as local elders.

* After election as presiding elder J. R. Niergarth resigned as secretary. E. G. Frye was appointed secretary and R. N. Holsaple assistant.

Received by Credentials: E. S. Dutcher from the M. E. church, C. F. Smith from the Wesleyan Methodist church, C. W. Lyman from the Free Methodist church, I. J. Bicknell from the M. E. church, H. C. Fuerstenau from the Oregon Conference and H. Dierlamm from the Canada Conference.

Withdrawn: H. L. Schmidt. The name of E. E. Wood was stricken from the record.

Credentials: To H. Schuknecht, H. O. Bushnell and W. Brown.

Resigned: W. A. Koehler resigned as presiding elder.

Elected: G. A. Hettler was elected as presiding elder.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, Geo. Koehler; Grand Rapids District, J. R. Niergarth; Flint District, F. Klump; Detroit District, G. A. Hettler.

Delegates to the General Conference: Ministerial—J. R. Niergarth, F. Klump, G. A. Hettler, Geo. Koehler, J. M. Nyce, W. C. Swenk, and J. A. Frye; alternates—W. A. Koehler, J. Riebel, and F. C. Berger; lay—J. W. Miller and H. S. Faust; alternate—L. J. Liesemer.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. A. Frye.

Conference Commission on Evangelism was created: The Bishop, presiding elders and E. G. Frye, W. C. Swenk, D. C. Ostroth, C. B. Stroh and P. H. Pohly.

Committee on Organic Church Union was Appointed: J. A. Frye, W. C. Swenk, C. C. Staffeld, H. R. Niergarth and J. W. Miller.

Heating: Conference ordered all congregations to provide suitable heating apparatus for the parsonages.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering, \$2,000.00.

1912

Conference convened Wednesday, April 10, 1912, at 2 P. M., at Owosso, Mich.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, E. G. Frye; assistants, J. A. Halmhuber and O. C. Penticoff.

Deaths: J. Orth, J. Nicolai and Mrs. Geo. Doll.

Licensed: E. S. Faust, A. M. Oviatt, E. D. Riebel, H. Thede, G. A. Spitler and C. F. Gackler.*

Ordained: Deacon—G. Raduchel, B. E. Belknap, W. F. Boettcher and W. H. Fairchild; elder—E. L. Marsh.

Itinerancy: G. Raduchel, B. E. Belknap, W. F. Boettcher and W. H. Fairchild.

* The name of C. F. Gackler does not appear in the *Journal* among those granted license. This evidently is an oversight.

Received by Credentials: H. C. Heise, John Schurman and D. C. Brown.

Withdrawn: Ross Willson, Sr., and Ross Willson, Jr., surrendered their licenses and withdrew.

Credentials: To M. E. Faust, W. H. Halmhuber and G. W. Coss.

Elected: J. M. Nyce was elected presiding elder.

District Assignments: St. Joseph District, Geo. Koehler; Grand Rapids District, J. R. Niergarth; Flint District, J. M. Nyce and Detroit District, G. A. Hettler.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, J. R. Niergarth.

Gift: A special gift of \$1,000.00 from a lady outside the church was announced.

Appeal: An appeal was made to the Conference Branch W. M. S. and to the General Board of Missions for aid in meeting the missionary opportunities in the conference.

Laymen: The laymen of the conference urged an increase in salary standards for ministers of the conference. They also approved the Superannuation Fund and publicly subscribed \$1,575.00 for the fund.

Organizations: A Conference Student Aid Society and a Conference Deaconess Society were formed.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$2,150.00.

1913

Conference convened Wednesday, April 9, 1913, at 2 P. M., in the Fourth Ward church, Flint.

Bishop S. P. Spreng presiding.

Secretary, E. G. Frye; assistants, J. A. Halmhuber and C. B. Stroh.

Deaths: L. Brumm, J. Borough, J. Miller, H. C. Fuerstenau and Geo. Doll.

Licensed: G. E. Hall, D. F. Binder, G. H. Kellermann, John Zoller, and W. Koteskey.

Ordained: Deacon—F. Yearnd, H. C. Heise and F. L. Pohly; elder—E. C. Braun.

Itinerancy: F. Yearnd, F. L. Pohly, H. C. Heise, J. Schurman and C. W. Lyman.

Received: E. B. Leisenring, E. W. Hughes and E. Willard.

Credentials: To C. M. Early, A. D. Faupel and O. C. Penticoff.

District Stationing: St. Joseph District, Geo. Koehler; Grand Rapids District, J. R. Niergarth; Flint District, J. M. Nyce; Detroit District, G. A. Hettler.

Delegate to Board of Missions: W. C. Swenk; alternate, J. R. Niergarth.

Offering: Missionary offering on Sunday, \$2,300.00.

1914

Conference convened Wednesday, April 8, 1914, at 2 P. M., in the Mack Ave. church, Detroit, Mich. (Jubilee Session.)

Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Secretary, E. G. Frye; assistants, J. A. Halmhuber, C. B. Stroh and H. I. Voelker.

Deaths: S. Copley, Mrs. J. Paulin and Mrs. E. J. Steeby.

Licensed: H. Stressman, H. H. Donnenwerth, Noal Ritchie, Oliver Morningstar, Charles Foster, Vern Blanchard, A. D. Irish, W. D. Hayes and O. M. Albig.

Ordained: Deacon—G. C. Murbach, C. F. Gackler, E. S. Faust and Philip Howe; elder—G. Raduchel, J. Schurman and F. H. Horn.

Itinerancy: C. F. Gackler, G. C. Murbach and E. S. Faust.

Received by Credentials: C. M. Early, A. S. Andrews and G. H. Simpson.

Withdrawn: L. P. May, C. D. Finch, W. H. Bishop and F. Yearnd.

Credentials: To O. Y. Schneider and W. Y. Pohly.

Elected: Geo. Koehler and J. R. Niergarth were reelected presiding elders.

District Assignments: Detroit District, G. A. Hettler; Flint District, J. M. Nyce; Grand Rapids District, Geo. Koehler; St. Joseph District, J. R. Niergarth.

Gift: A special gift of \$800.00 from Daniel Garlinger in memory of his wife, was announced.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. C. Swenk; alternate, J. R. Niergarth.

Offering: The missionary offering on Sunday was above \$4,000.00.

1915

Conference convened Wednesday, April 7, 1915, at 2 P. M., in the First church, Grand Rapids.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

* Secretary, E. G. Frye; assistants, J. A. Halmhuber and C. B. Stroh.

Deaths: J. M. Fuchs, F. E. Walter, S. C. Croff and Mrs. F. Knopf.

Licensed: A. R. Kuehn, W. E. Gottesleben, L. H. Hayes, H. G. Bushong and H. H. Zemmer.

Ordained: Deacon—Geo. Hall, Wm. Koteskey, D. F. Binder and G. H. Kellermann; elder—B. E. Belknap.

Itinerancy: Geo. Hall, Wm. Koteskey, D. F. Binder, G. H. Simpson, G. H. Kellermann.

* E. G. Frye being elected presiding elder, J. A. Halmhuber was appointed to succeed him as secretary.

Received by Credentials: J. H. Soltman from Canada Conference and F. W. Kirn from Illinois Conference.

Withdrawn: F. C. Schwartz.

Elected: E. G. Frye was elected presiding elder.

District Assignments: Detroit District, E. G. Frye; Flint District, J. M. Nyce; Grand Rapids District, Geo. Koehler; St. Joseph District, J. R. Niergarth.

Delegates to General Conference: Ministerial—J. M. Nyce, J. R. Niergarth, Geo. Koehler, E. G. Frye, F. C. Berger, G. A. Hettler, W. C. Swenk; alternates—J. A. Halmhuber and J. Riebel; lay delegates—Theo. Hutt, G. I. Frye and Irving Miller; alternates—J. W. Miller and H. R. Niergarth.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. C. Swenk; alternate, J. R. Niergarth.

Gifts to the Superannuation Fund, made during this session, totaling \$2,905.00 were announced.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$2,500.00.

1916

Conference convened Wednesday, April 12, 1916, at 2 P. M., in St. Joseph.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, J. A. Halmhuber; assistants, C. B. Stroh, C. F. Gackler and C. C. Gibson.

Deaths: F. E. Armstrong, Wm. Berge, J. Schmaus, A. Kuehn, Sr., Mrs. J. Wales, Mrs. S. Krupp and Irving Miller.

Licensed: O. N. Braun, A. D. Smith, C. E. Koteskey, C. A. Strait, A. G. Hagerman, Earl F. Bailey, L. Polmanteer and H. E. Spade.

Ordained: Deacon—F. W. Kirn, H. H. Donnenwerth, Sumner Young, H. Stressman, F. A. Hood and H. H. Zemmer; elder—C. F. Gackler, H. C. Heise, G. H. Simpson, E. S. Faust, G. C. Murbach.

Itinerancy: F. W. Kirn, F. A. Hood, Sumner Young, H. Stressman.

Received: S. Cormany with credentials from the Baptist church.

Deposed: A. M. Haddix.

Credentials: To D. C. Ostroth to New England Conference and J. Hommel to Wisconsin Conference.

Elected: E. G. Frye resigned as presiding elder. J. M. Nyce was reelected and W. C. Swenk newly elected to this office.

District Assignments: Detroit District, J. M. Nyce; Flint District, W. C. Swenk; Grand Rapids District, Geo. Koehler; St. Joseph District, J. R. Niergarth.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. C. Swenk; alternate, H. I. Voelker.

Plans to organize a Laymen's Church Extension Society were approved.

1917

Conference convened Wednesday, April 11, 1917, at 2 P. M., at Elkton.

Bishop S. P. Spreng presiding.

Secretary, J. A. Halmhuber; assistants, C. B. Stroh, C. C. Gibson and C. F. Gackler.

Deaths: Vern Blanchard and J. Wales, ministers; J. J. Eckhardt and L. A. Tanner, lay delegates.

Licensed: C. B. Westfall, L. F. Burkey, L. E. Manore and J. W. LeVan.

Ordained: Deacon—J. H. Soltman, H. G. Bushong, W. D. Hayes, C. A. Sanders, G. A. Spitler, L. H. Hayes, A. R. Kuehn and Geo. Bates; elder—W. H. Fairchild, D. F. Binder, G. H. Kellermann, W. Koteskey, F. L. Pohly and R. N. Holsaple.

Itinerancy: H. H. Donnenwerth, S. Cormany, W. A. Bulgrin, H. W. Link, J. Hommel, J. H. Soltman, W. D. Hayes, C. A. Sanders, G. A. Spitler, A. R. Kuehn and C. G. Kaatz.

Received by Credentials: W. A. Bulgrin, O. Y. Schneider, J. Hommel, H. W. Link, C. E. Reidt and C. G. Kaatz.

Withdrawn: D. C. Brown, E. S. Dutcher, John Zoller, A. D. Irish, A. G. Haggerman and O. Morningstar.

District Assignments: Detroit District, J. M. Nyce; Flint District, W. C. Swenk; Grand Rapids District, Geo. Koehler; St. Joseph District, J. R. Niergarth.

Merged: The Sunday School and Tract Union was merged with the Sunday-school Board.

Church Extension: A special plan for life membership in the Church Extension Society was presented and adopted. The sum of \$1,125.00 was subscribed at this time.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: C. F. Gackler; alternate, W. H. Watson

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering exceeded \$4,000.00.

1918

Conference convened Wednesday, April 10, 1918, at 2 P. M., at Ionia

Bishop G. Heinmiller presiding.

Secretary, J. A. Halmhuber; assistants, C. B. Stroh, C. C. Gibson and C. F. Gackler

Licensed: F. J. Winter, J. R. Black, L. F. Woodward, Carl True-schal, F. W. Fall, Clyde Rotherick, L. E. Chamberlian, C. B. Green-man, E. R. Lantz, S. R. Wurtz and Carl Dahlstrom.

Ordained: Deacon—O. N. Braun, W. E. Gottesleben and L. H. Hayes; elder—F. W. Kirn.

Itinerancy: O. N. Braun, W. E. Gottesleben, L. H. Hayes, Wm. Gumser.

Received by Credentials: R. R. Brown, W. H. Carpenter and Wm. Gumser.

Withdrawn: The name of C. E. Reidt was stricken.

Elected: W. H. Watson was newly elected and J. R. Niergarth reelected as presiding elder.

District Assignments: Detroit District, J. M. Nyce; Flint District, J. R. Niergarth; Grand Rapids District, W. H. Watson; St. Joseph District, W. C. Swenk.

Constitution for Laymen's Church Extension Society was approved.

Conference passed a resolution of loyalty to the Government of the United States, assuring the President of the hearty support of the conference in the war crisis.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: C. F. Gackler; alternate, H. I. Voelker.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering about \$2,500.00.

Two conversions in the evening service.

1919

Conference convened Wednesday, April 9, 1919, at 2 P. M., in the Leighton church.

Bishop L. H. Seager presiding.

* Secretary, J. A. Halmhuber; assistants, C. B. Stroh, R. N. Holsaple and E. S. Faust.

Deaths: C. F. Gackler, Geo. Koehler, W. F. Vogel, J. H. Keeler, I. J. Bicknell, A. Halmhuber, Mrs. L. H. Hayes, Mrs. J. Schneider, Mrs. Barbara Gingrich, Mrs. Harvey Thede and Mrs. E. L. Alles.

Licensed: G. B. Baldwin, Elliot Zoller, L. E. Willoughby, J. W. Hill, G. I. Frye, W. H. Fowler, and Edward Bannick.

Ordained: Deacon—E. D. Riebel, (H. A. Gunyan was received as a deacon); elder—H. Stressman, G. A. Spitler, J. H. Soltman (W. H. Hutton was received as an elder).

Itinerancy: C. A. Glass and E. D. Riebel.

Received by Credentials: W. H. Hutton and H. A. Gunyan.

Delegates to the General Conference: Ministerial—W. H. Watson,

* Due to the death of his father J. A. Halmhuber was excused from attendance after Wednesday. C. B. Stroh became acting secretary. R. N. Holsaple was also excused and F. W. Kirn appointed to his place.

W. C. Swenk, J. R. Niergarth, J. M. Nyce, F. C. Berger, C. B. Stroh and G. Knechtel; alternates—D. O. Ruth, H. I. Volker and E. G. Frye; lay delegates—Joshua Braun, E. F. Young and J. W. Miller.

District Assignments: Detroit District, J. M. Nyce; Flint District, J. R. Niergarth; Grand Rapids District, W. H. Watson; St. Joseph District, W. C. Swenk.

Plans for a "Victory Campaign" presented by the Commission on Evangelism were adopted.

Pledges: Saturday evening, J. R. Niergarth, chairman of the Victory Campaign, made an appeal to the conference for pledges for this cause and \$3,500.00 was quickly pledged.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering amounted to \$6,500.00, the largest in the history of the conference. The combined offerings totaling \$10,000.00 was a remarkable achievement.

1920

Conference convened Wednesday, April 7, 1920, at 2 P. M., at Portage Prairie.

Bishop S. P. Spreng presiding.

* Secretary, C. B. Stroh; assistants, C. C. Gibson, E. S. Faust and F. W. Kirn.

Deaths: George Johnson, Wm. Stipe, C. J. Gurney, Mrs. C. B. Westfall, Mrs. H. T. Strauch and Mrs. J. W. Loose.

Licensed: A. D. Burch, Ed. F. Bailey, G. E. Kloepfenstein, L. E. Burgess, C. C. Wiedman, N. R. Ernst, F. E. Putnam, H. G. White, W. R. Frederickson, S. P. Kirn, R. J. Striffler and J. E. Lindley.

Ordained: Deacon—A. D. Smith, F. W. Fall, F. J. Winter, C. E. Koteskey, L. Polmanteer, H. Thede, L. E. Manore, C. B. Westfall, J. W. Levan, L. E. Chamberlain, C. B. Greenman, L. F. Woodward, O. M. Albig and C. A. Strait; elder—G. E. Hall, C. A. Sanders, O. N. Braun and W. D. Hayes.

Itinerancy: O. Y. Schneider, W. H. Wagner, A. D. Smith, F. W. Fall, F. J. Winter, C. E. Koteskey, L. Polmanteer, H. Thede, L. E. Manore, C. B. Westfall, J. W. LeVan, L. E. Chamberlain, C. B. Greenman, L. F. Woodward, O. M. Albig and C. A. Strait.

Received by Credentials: O. M. Albig from Illinois Conference.

Withdrawn: Noel Ritchie, Clyde Rotherick, R. R. Brown, H. G. Bushong, W. H. Hutton, J. A. Halmhuber and Earl F. Bailey.

Credentials: To F. C. Berger, Warren Brown and S. Cormany.

Resigned: J. R. Niergarth resigned as presiding elder. The terms of W. C. Swenk and J. M. Nyce expired.

* After election as presiding elder C. B. Stroh resigned as secretary and C. C. Gibson was appointed.

Redistricted: Conference was redistricted and W. C. Swenk, G. Knechtel and C. B. Stroh elected presiding elders. C. B. Stroh was stationed on the Detroit District as a pastor-presiding. Later conference reconsidered its action on redistricting. Stroh resigned and H. I. Voelker was elected.

District Assignments: Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Flint District, G. Knechtel; Grand Rapids District, H. I. Voelker; St. Joseph District, W. C. Swenk.

Moving: Conference made provision for the moving expenses of the ministers.

Conference authorized plans for a Bible and Evangelistic Conference during the year.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, H. I. Voelker.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$5,000.00.

Monday: The conference met Monday to conclude its business, adjourning Monday afternoon.

1921

Conference convened Wednesday, April 13, 1921, at 2 P. M., at Sebewaing.

Bishop G. Heinmiller presiding.

Secretary, C. C. Gibson; assistants: E. S. Faust, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spittler and E. D. Riebel.

Deaths: A. A. Scheurer, G. A. Hettler, E. A. Perone, A. D. Smith, W. Simmons and H. A. Decker.

Licensed: J. D. Clement, Philip Thomas, L. R. Anderson, T. A. Moyer, C. E. Meyers, W. N. Nutt, Wm. Warrilow, A. L. Bingaman, A. C. Bauman, G. J. Pohly, W. T. Bandeen, Frank Maneval, C. A. Parker, G. C. Lockwood, M. R. Everett, G. A. Holtz, M. H. Willard, Kenneth Sharp.

Ordained: Deacon—G. B. Baldwin; elder—E. D. Riebel, A. R. Kuehn, Sumner Young.

Itinerancy: G. B. Baldwin.

Received by Credentials: N. J. Swearingen, B. G. Thomas and Robert Adams.

Withdrawn: L. S. Davison.

Credentials: To J. E. Lindley.

District Assignments: Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Flint District, G. Knechtel; Grand Rapids District, H. I. Voelker; St. Joseph District, W. C. Swenk.

Incorporation: The Supervising Committee was ordered to take steps to incorporate the conference and prepare a charter.

MICHIGAN DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF 1922, HELD AT MACK
 AVE., DETROIT. AT THIS CONFERENCE THE MERGER BETWEEN THE EVANGELICAL
 ASSOCIATION AND UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH TOOK PLACE



NAMES OF THE DELEGATES

Rear Row—Beginning at left: Rev. J. R. Niergarth, Mr. Daniel Eckstein, Mr. H. I. L. Hahn and Dr. G. I. Schellig.
 Center Row—Rev. G. Knechtel, Rev. W. C. Swenk, Rev. E. G. Frye, Mr. John W. Miller and Mr. E. F. Young.
 Front Row—Mr. Joshua Braun, Rev. W. H. Watson, Mr. W. A. Womer, Rev. J. M. Nyce and Rev. H. I. Voelker.
 Members of the delegation not appearing on the picture—Rev. C. B. Stroh, Mr. F. D. Faist and Mr. M. L. Ackerman.

IN UNION INDIVISIBLE



THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

COMMEMORATING
THE RE-UNITING BY MERGER OF
THE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION
AND THE
UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

ON OCTOBER 13, 1922
IN THE MACK AVENUE CHURCH, DETROIT

PARTICIPATING IN THE MERGER SERVICE
WERE THE FOLLOWING
BISHOP S. C. BREYFOGEL
BISHOP S. P. SPRENG
BISHOP G. HEINMILLER
BISHOP L. H. SEAGER
BISHOP M. T. MAZE
AND TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY ONE DELEGATES

ERECTED BY THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE
EVANGELICAL CHURCH
OCTOBER 22, 1939

MARKER COMMEMORATING MERGER OF EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION AND
UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH—1922

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, F. W. Kirn.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$5,400.00.

Twelve seekers knelt at the altar in the Sunday evening service.

1922

Conference convened Wednesday, April 12, 1922, at 2 P. M., at Monroe.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel presiding.

Secretary, C. C. Gibson; assistants, E. S. Faust and G. A. Spitler.

Deaths: H. Spitler, H. T. Strauch, Mrs. C. C. Staffeld and Mrs. Sumner Young.

Licensed: Earl F. Bailey, Charles Andrews, F. C. Johnson, R. C. Miller, M. F. Lempke, M. Oeschger, W. I. Kaechele, Norman Schwandt, W. J. Loder, Arthur Warrilow, G. H. Baker, L. J. Van Sickler, H. D. Brookins, O. G. Knechtel.

Ordained: Deacon—J. W. Hill, G. E. Klopfenstein, W. H. Fowler, E. W. Zoller, A. D. Burch, A. A. Weinert, N. J. Swearingen, J. R. Black; elder—F. A. Hood, H. H. Donnenwerth, C. B. Westfall, L. E. Manore, L. F. Woodward, F. J. Winter and F. W. Fall.

Itinerancy: J. W. Hill, G. E. Klopfenstein, W. H. Fowler, E. W. Zoller, A. D. Burch, A. A. Weinert, N. J. Swearingen, W. S. Tracy and J. W. Richards.

Received by Credentials: W. S. Tracy, J. W. Richards and A. A. Weinert.

Withdrawn: O. Morningstar, C. A. Strait and Kenneth Sharp.

Credentials: To Harvey Thede and J. H. Soltman.

Elected: W. H. Watson was reelected presiding elder.

District Assignments: Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Flint District, G. Knechtel; Grand Rapids District, H. I. Voelker; St. Joseph District, W. C. Swenk.

Historian: J. R. Niergarth was elected conference historian.

District Parsonages: Plans for raising funds to pay for the district parsonages were adopted.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, F. W. Kirn.

1923

Conference convened Wednesday, May 2, 1923, at 2 P. M., at St. Joseph.

Bishop J. F. Dunlap presiding.

Secretary, C. C. Gibson; assistants, E. S. Faust, F. W. Kirn and G. A. Spitler.

Deaths: F. Koehler, F. Knopf and Mrs. J. K. Pontius.

Licensed: Paul Shelly, Ira Gee, Garth Gee, Alvia Reynolds, Elmer Pritchard, Harold Quint, G. B. Ball, S. Fracker, M. C. Beers, H. J. Rhines, R. H. Lahr, E. Haines.

Ordained: Deacon—L. R. Anderson, F. E. Putnam, L. E. Willoughby, Ed. F. Bailey, A. L. Bingaman, T. A. Moyer, M. H. Willard and F. F. Maneval; elder—O. M. Albig and L. E. Chamberlain.

Itinerancy: L. R. Anderson, F. E. Putnam, L. E. Willoughby, Ed. F. Bailey, A. L. Bingaman, T. A. Moyer, M. H. Willard, F. F. Maneval, H. A. Gunyan.

Received by Credentials: G. W. Scott and F. J. Wolfe.

Credentials: To W. D. Gamertsfelder and H. D. Brookins.

Reinstated: R. R. Brown as a preacher on trial; A. M. Haddix as a local elder.

Returned: A. H. Warrilow returned his license as a probationer.

District Assignments: Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Flint District, G. Knechtel; Grand Rapids District, H. I. Voelker; St. Joseph District, W. C. Swenk.

Bay City: The Bay City congregation, an independent organization, was, upon its own request, unanimously received into the conference, the congregation to retain title to its property.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: J. M. Nyce; alternate, F. W. Kirn.

The publication of the *Michigan Evangelical*, a conference paper, was discontinued.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was nearly \$3,000.00.

1924

Conference convened Wednesday, April 30, 1924, at 2 P. M., at Bay City.

Bishop L. H. Seager presiding.

Secretary, C. C. Gibson; assistants, E. S. Faust, F. W. Kirn and G. A. Spittler.

Deaths: Mrs. W. F. Kring and Mrs. Ira Gee.

Licensed: H. D. Oeschger and A. E. Kurth.

Ordained: Deacon—S. P. Kirn, C. E. Meyers, Philip Thomas, A. C. Bauman, and W. N. Nutt; elder—A. A. Weinert, J. W. Hill, C. B. Greenman, A. D. Burch, G. E. Klopfenstein, N. J. Swearingen, E. W. Zoller and L. Polmanteer. (S. Linge was received as a local elder.)

Itinerancy: S. P. Kirn, C. E. Meyers, Philip Thomas, A. C. Bauman and W. N. Nutt.

Received by Credentials: D. W. Staffeld, Edward Young and S. Linge.

Credentials: To O. M. Albig and E. W. Zoller.

Elected: G. Knechtel and H. I. Voelker were reëlected and C. B. Stroh newly elected presiding elders.

District Assignments: Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Flint District, G. Knechtel; Grand Rapids District, H. I. Voelker; St. Joseph District, C. B. Stroh.

The Zion Congregational church of Solon, Michigan, requested admission to the conference which was unanimously granted.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: E. D. Riebel; alternate, F. W. Kirn.

Historian: J. R. Niergarth was reappointed as conference historian.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering exceeded \$3,500.00.

1925

Conference convened Wednesday, April 29, 1925, at 2 P. M., at Flint (First), church.

Bishop M. T. Maze presiding.

Secretary, C. C. Gibson; assistants, E. S. Faust, F. W. Kirn and G. A. Spitler.

Deaths: W. A. Koehler, E. M. Renner, Mrs. W. A. Bulgrin, Mrs. C. S. Brown, and Mrs. J. Drinkwater.

Licensed: W. S. Nelson, G. G. Davis, A. C. DeVries, C. H. Scott, Wm. Marshall, Myles Shurtliff and C. W. Walmer.

Ordained: Deacon—Ira Gee, Edward Young, C. Trueshal, Geo. Holtz, L. E. Burgess, S. R. Wurtz, W. T. Bandeen, R. R. Brown, A. E. Kurth, L. F. Burkey, H. E. Spade, S. S. Fracker and L. J. Van Sickler; elder—C. E. Koteskey, Ed. F. Bailey, A. L. Bingaman, M. H. Willard, F. E. Putnam, T. A. Moyer, L. E. Willoughby, H. A. Gunyan.

Itinerancy: Ira Gee, Edward Young, C. Trueshal, Geo. Holtz, L. E. Burgess, S. R. Wurtz, W. T. Bandeen, R. R. Brown, A. E. Kurth, L. F. Burkey, H. E. Spade and L. J. Van Sickler.

Received: O. M. Albig returned his credentials.

Credentials: To C. E. Meyers and G. B. Baldwin.

District Assignments: Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Flint District, G. Knechtel; Grand Rapids District, H. I. Voelker; St. Joseph District, C. B. Stroh.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: E. D. Riebel; alternate, F. W. Kirn.

Historian: J. R. Niergarth was reëlected conference historian.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering amounted to \$1,000.00 in cash.

1926

Conference convened Wednesday, April 28, 1926, at 2 P. M., in the Waterman Avenue church, Detroit.

Bishop S. P. Spreng presiding.

* Secretary, C. C. Gibson; assistants, E. S. Faust, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler.

Deaths: F. J. Klump, N. J. Swearingen, Mrs. J. Hommel, Mrs. F. Koehler, Mrs. N. Frye, Mrs. W. A. Shelly.

Licensed: L. S. Scheifele, W. Crothers, W. M. Palmer, E. C. Pipenberg, Clifford Likes.

Ordained: Deacon—R. C. Miller, E. R. Lantz, M. C. Beers; elder—F. F. Maneval, W. N. Nutt, P. H. Thomas, A. C. Bauman.

Itinerancy: R. C. Miller, E. R. Lantz, M. C. Beers.

Credentials: To W. J. Loder, A. H. Butzbach, W. H. Fairchild.

Deposed: C. B. Stroh, C. B. Greenman, L. J. Van Sickler.

Withdrawn under complaint: F. W. Dill.

Withdrawn: J. W. LeVan, J. D. Clement, C. Dahlstrom, E. Bannick, Wm. Warrilow.

Redistricted: Conference was divided into three districts.

Election: C. C. Gibson was elected presiding elder.

District Assignments: Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Bay City District, G. Knechtel; Kalamazoo District, H. I. Voelker.

Delegates to General Conference: Ministerial—C. C. Gibson, H. I. Voelker, G. Knechtel, W. H. Watson, E. S. Faust, E. G. Frye, E. D. Riebel, G. H. Kellermann, J. M. Nyce; lay delegates—C. M. Cook, H. L. Hahn, W. A. Hammond, F. D. Faist, G. I. Schellig, John Miller, E. E. Ludwig, Moses Braun, E. F. Young. Alternates: Ministerial—W. Koteskey, J. R. Niergarth, C. A. Wilkie, W. C. Swenk; lay—L. G. Kaechele, W. A. Womer, C. Marshall, J. W. Scheurer, D. Nieb.

Board of Missions: E. D. Riebel, delegate; F. W. Kirn, alternate.

Conference Historian: W. H. Watson.

1927

Conference convened Wednesday, April 27, 1927, at 2 P. M., in Greenwood Park church, Jackson.

Bishop J. S. Stamm presiding.

Secretary, E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler and E. D. Riebel.

Deaths: C. C. Staffeld, L. R. Anderson, Mrs. E. L. Marsh, Mrs. F. E. Walters, Mrs. A. Kuehn, Sr., Mrs. H. Spitler, J. Drinkwater.

Licensed: R. J. Lautner and H. A. Brannan.

Ordained: Deacon—R. H. Lahr, A. C. DeVries, G. C. Lockwood; elder—L. E. Burgess, E. Young, W. T. Bandeen, A. E. Kurth, C. Trueshal, Ira Gee and S. P. Kirn.

* After election as presiding elder, C. C. Gibson resigned as secretary and E. S. Faust was elected to the office of secretary.

Itinerancy: R. H. Lahr, A. C. DeVries and A. P. Fisher.

Received by Credentials: W. H. Fairchild, D. C. Ostroth, A. Geist and A. P. Fisher.

Credentials: To C. F. Giese, M. F. Lempke, Garth Gee, G. G. Davis, Philip Howe, J. G. Neuber and O. M. Albig.

Withdrawn: R. J. Striffler and F. C. Johnson.

District Assignments: Bay City District, G. Knechtel; Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Kalamazoo District, H. I. Voelker.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: E. D. Riebel; alternate, F. W. Kirn.

D. O. Ostroth was elected conference director of Christian Education.

1928

Conference convened Wednesday, May 2, 1928, at 2 P. M., at Sebewaing.

Bishop J. F. Dunlap presiding.

Secretary, E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler and A. E. Kurth.

Deaths: G. G. Heximer, Chas. H. Andrews, Mrs. C. J. Gurney, Mrs. W. H. Wagner, and Mrs. O. G. Knechtel.

Licensed: C. W. Boettcher, C. S. Harrington, G. L. Lyons.

Ordained: Deacon—E. Pritchard, M. R. Everett; elder—W. F. Boettcher, S. R. Wurtz and E. R. Lantz.

Received by Credentials: W. Crothers granted relation of local deacon on basis of credentials from United Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada.

Credentials: To M. H. Willard, F. J. Winter, H. H. Zemmer, N. Schwandt, P. H. Thomas, L. F. Burkey and C. W. Walmer.

Withdrawn: Ira Gee.

Elected: C. A. Wilkie and W. H. Watson were elected presiding elders.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Kalamazoo District, W. H. Watson.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: G. Knechtel; alternate, F. W. Kirn.

Historian: W. H. Watson was elected conference historian.

1929

Conference convened Wednesday, May 15, 1929, at 2 P. M., in the Griggs St. church, Grand Rapids.

Bishop L. H. Seager presiding.

Secretary, E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler and S. P. Kirn.

Deaths: S. Krupp and Mrs. G. J. Kirn.

Licensed: W. P. Peck, Garland B. Smith, C. J. Erickson, P. L. Simpson, H. E. Ryan, D. R. Kring, E. F. Rhoades.

Ordained: Deacon—G. B. Ball, W. M. Palmer, and C. A. Parker; elder—A. C. DeVries and R. H. Lahr.

Itinerancy: W. Crothers, G. B. Ball, W. M. Palmer and C. A. Parker.

Received by Credentials: M. H. Willard.

Credentials: To Myles Shurtliff, Wm. Marshall and C. Rodesiler.

Withdrawn: M. Oeschger and Clifford Likes.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Kalamazoo District, W. H. Watson.

Salary Scale Adopted: Elders, \$1,500.00; deacons, \$1,300.00; probationers, \$1,100.00.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: G. Knechtel; alternate, R. R. Brown.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$425.00 in cash.

1930

Conference convened Wednesday, May 14, 1930, at 2 P. M., at Portage Prairie.

Bishop M. T. Maze presiding.

Secretary: E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler, A. E. Kurth and S. P. Kirn.

Deaths: P. Scheurer, F. E. Putnam, Mrs. C. H. Howe, Mrs. L. V. Soldan and Mrs. Mary Berge.

Ordained: Deacons—O. G. Knechtel and W. S. Nelson; elders—R. R. Brown and M. R. Everett.

Itinerancy: O. G. Knechtel and E. Willard.

Credentials: To O. M. Albigh and G. E. Hall.

Withdrawn: S. Fracker, C. H. Scott and G. B. Smith.

Reinstated: Manton Oeschger.

Elected: C. C. Gibson was reelected as presiding elder.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Kalamazoo District, W. H. Watson.

Delegates to General Conference: W. H. Watson, C. C. Gibson, C. A. Wilkie, E. S. Faust, G. H. Kellermann, D. C. Ostroth, H. I. Voelker and E. G. Frye; alternates, W. Koteskey, F. W. Kirn and J. R. Niergarth; lay delegates, C. M. Cook, H. L. Hahn, D. Nieb, W. A. Hammond, R. C. Saxton, Milton Ackerman, J. W. Miller, W. F. Kurth and C. Kaechele; alternates, E. E. Ludwig, J. E. Miller and A. J. Putnam.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: G. Knechtel; alternate, G. H. Kellermann.

1931

Conference convened Wednesday, May 13, 1931, at 2 P. M., at Dearborn.

Bishop J. F. Dunlap presiding.

Secretary, E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler, A. E. Kurth and S. P. Kirn.

Deaths: C. W. Lyman, J. J. Marshall, W. A. Shelly, Mrs. J. Riebel and Mrs. H. G. White.

Licensed: M. R. Jewell, H. R. Krieg, H. L. Deabler, L. A. Ruegsegger, G. D. Everett and N. W. Klump.

Ordained: Deacon—W. P. Peck and H. D. Oeschger; elder—G. B. Ball and C. A. Parker.

Itinerancy: W. P. Peck, H. D. Oeschger, W. S. Nelson.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Kalamazoo District, W. H. Watson.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: G. Knechtel; alternate, G. H. Kellermann.

Sunday: About 2,000 attended the Sunday afternoon services in the Cooley High School.

1932

Conference convened Wednesday, May 11, 1932, at 2 P. M., at Snover.

Bishop J. F. Dunlap presiding.

Secretary, E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler, A. E. Kurth and S. P. Kirn.

Deaths: J. M. Nyce, H. L. Quint, Mrs. G. A. Spitler, Mrs. John Kohn, Mrs. A. M. Haddix.

Licensed: C. B. Wilson, W. W. Harper, Chester Walter, J. H. Koteskey.

Ordained: Deacon—L. S. Scheifele and R. J. Lautner; elder—O. G. Knechtel, W. S. Nelson, M. C. Beers, W. Crothers, W. M. Palmer, E. Pritchard.

Itinerancy: L. S. Scheifele and R. J. Lautner.

Received by Credentials: G. E. Hall.

Credentials: To A. Geist.

Elected: W. H. Watson and C. A. Wilkie were reelected district superintendents.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Kalamazoo District, W. H. Watson.

Delegate to Board of Missions: W. Koteskey; alternate, G. H. Kellermann.

1933

Conference convened Wednesday, May 17, 1933, at 2 P. M., at Battle Creek.

Bishop J. F. Dunlap presiding.

Secretary, E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler, A. E. Kurth and O. G. Knechtel.

Deaths: E. Willard, A. M. Haddix, J. Riebel, J. R. Black, Mrs. L. Brumm, Mrs. W. H. Camfield and Mrs. J. R. Black.

Licensed: Paul Richards, O. M. Bailey, Paul Crabtree and W. C. Bassett.

Ordained: Deacon—L. A. Ruegsegger, H. A. Brannan, C. S. Harrington; elder—W. P. Peck.

Itinerancy: L. A. Ruegsegger, H. A. Brannan, C. S. Harrington and Geo. Holtz.

Credentials: To D. W. Staffeld.

Withdrawn: P. L. Simpson.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, C. C. Gibson; Kalamazoo District, W. H. Watson.

Marker: Plans for placing a suitable marker at the site of the first conference session near Blissfield, were reported.

Financial Secretary: The office of financial secretary was created and G. H. Kellermann elected as the first incumbent of that office.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. Koteskey; alternate, G. H. Kellermann.

1934

Conference convened Wednesday, May 16, 1934, at 2 P. M., in Calvary church, Detroit.

Bishop J. F. Dunlap presiding.

* Secretary, E. S. Faust; assistants, F. W. Kirn, G. A. Spitler and A. E. Kurth.

Deaths: John Kirn, W. H. Wagner, Mrs. J. Schmaus.

Licensed: W. A. Harrington and John Hitchens.

Ordained: Deacon—D. R. Kring, H. E. Ryan, G. D. Everett, N. W. Klump; elder—L. S. Scheifele, R. J. Lautner, G. A. Holtz.

Itinerancy: D. R. Kring, H. E. Ryan, G. D. Everett, N. W. Klump.

Returned: C. W. Boettcher returned his license.

Stricken: The names of E. Haines and Paul Shelly were stricken from the records.

Elected: E. S. Faust was elected district superintendent.

* After election as district superintendent, E. S. Faust resigned as secretary and F. W. Kirn was elected to the office.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Kalamazoo District, E. S. Faust.

Delegates to the General Conference: Ministerial—W. H. Watson, E. S. Faust, C. A. Wilkie, C. C. Gibson, G. H. Kellermann, D. C. Ostroth, F. W. Kirn, E. G. Frye and J. R. Niergarth; alternates—H. I. Voelker, W. Koteskey and E. D. Riebel; lay delegates—C. M. Cook, G. I. Schellig, Geo. Reamer, E. E. Ludwig, E. G. Mistele, W. A. Womer, C. Kaechele, G. I. Frye and R. C. Gamble; alternates—W. Kurth, Wm. Bartz and R. C. Saxton.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. Koteskey; alternate, D. F. Binder.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was about \$200.00.

1935

Conference convened Wednesday afternoon, May 22, 1935, at Elkton.

Bishop G. E. Epp presiding.

Secretary, F. W. Kirn; assistants, A. E. Kurth, G. A. Spitler and S. P. Kirn.

Deaths: J. Hommel, A. Frye, J. F. Kirn, J. A. Frye, D. J. Feather, E. L. Alles, J. J. Schuknecht, Mrs. A. J. Hettler, Mrs. O. P. Schleicher and Mrs. D. J. Feather.

Licensed: Oliver Francisco, Paul Smith, N. C. Liesemer, Willard Colley, S. C. Walton, L. A. Dana and D. R. Rose.

Ordained: Deacons—W. C. Bassett, M. R. Jewell and P. F. Richards; elder—L. A. Ruegsegger.

Itinerancy: W. C. Bassett, M. R. Jewell and P. F. Richards.

Credentials: To G. C. Lockwood, A. P. Fischer and G. W. Scott.

Received by Credentials: J. H. Stillson and O. M. Albigh.

Withdrawn: W. W. Harper.

District Assignments: Bay City District, C. A. Wilkie; Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Kalamazoo District, E. S. Faust.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. Koteskey; alternate, D. F. Binder.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was \$361.14.

1936

Conference convened Wednesday, May 20, 1936, at 2 P. M., at Petoskey.

Bishop G. E. Epp presiding.

Secretary, F. W. Kirn; assistants, A. E. Kurth, G. A. Spitler, S. P. Kirn, and O. G. Knechtel.

Deaths: J. M. Bittner, C. G. Kaatz, A. Ostroth, Mrs. S. Salsbery,

Mrs. J. F. Kirn, Mrs. W. F. Kring, Mrs. W. F. Vogel and Mrs. John Kirn.

Licensed: Homer Matteson, Harold Kohn and G. Allen Steeby.

Ordained: Deacon—H. R. Krieg, O. M. Bailey, H. L. Deabler; elder—H. A. Brannan, H. D. Oeschger, G. D. Everett, N. W. Klump, D. R. Kring, and H. E. Ryan.

Itinerancy: H. R. Krieg, O. M. Bailey and H. L. Deabler.

Credentials: To R. C. Miller and H. L. Deabler.

Received by Credentials: M. F. Lempke.

Withdrawn: E. C. Pipenberg, C. C. Wiedman, C. Walter and M. Oeschger.

Elected: D. C. Ostroth elected and W. H. Watson reelected district superintendents.

District Assignments: Bay City District, D. C. Ostroth; Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Kalamazoo District, E. S. Faust.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. Koteskey; alternate, D. F. Binder.

Offering: The Sunday missionary offering was nearly \$2,000.00 in cash and pledges.

1937

Conference convened Wednesday, May 19, 1937, at 2 P. M., in the Twelfth St. church, Detroit.

Bishop G. E. Epp presiding.

Secretary, F. W. Kirn; assistants, A. E. Kurth, S. P. Kirn and G. A. Spitler.

Deaths: E. C. Braun, D. O. Ruth, H. Voelker, J. W. Loose, Mrs. A. A. Scheurer and Mrs. Geo. Koehler.

Licensed: R. Kretzschmer.

Ordained: Deacon—J. H. Koteskey; elder—W. C. Bassett.

Credentials: To Alvia Reynolds and L. A. Dana.

Received by Credentials: H. D. Brookins and H. L. Deabler.

Withdrawn: Paul Smith and G. A. Holtz.

District Assignments: Bay City District, D. C. Ostroth; Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Kalamazoo District, E. S. Faust.

Delegate to the Board of Missions: W. Koteskey; alternate, D. F. Binder.

Offering: The Sunday offering for missions and debt reduction amounted to \$2,500.00 in cash and pledges.

1938

Conference convened Wednesday, May 18, 1938, at 2 P. M., at Leighton, Allegan County.

Bishop G. E. Epp presiding.

Secretary, F. W. Kirn; assistants, A. E. Kurth, S. P. Kirn and G. A. Spitler.

Deaths: S. Salsbery, W. A. Bulgrin, W. F. Kring, F. A. Hood, B. Mohr, Mrs. J. J. Schuknecht, Mrs. O. Y. Schneider, Mrs. J. E. Holsapple and Mrs. E. Rath.

Licensed: G. A. Belknap, G. G. Wilkie, R. C. Saxton and J. E. Norton.

Ordained: Deacon—N. C. Liesemer; elder—C. S. Harrington and O. M. Bailey.

Received by Credentials: Estes Kenney.

Withdrawn: Willard Colley.

Elected: E. S. Faust was reelected district superintendent.

District Assignments: Bay City District, D. C. Ostroth; Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Kalamazoo District, E. S. Faust.

Delegates to General Conference: Ministerial—W. H. Watson, E. S. Faust, D. C. Ostroth, C. C. Gibson, Wm. Koteskey, F. W. Kirn, A. E. Kurth and C. A. Wilkie; alternates—H. I. Voelker, J. R. Niergarth and E. G. Frye; lay delegates—E. E. Ludwig, G. I. Schellig, C. M. Cook, R. E. Gustafson, Mose Braun, Geo. Reamer, E. B. Breithaupt and R. J. Steeby; alternates—E. G. Misteles, W. A. Womer and W. H. Allswede.

Delegate to Board of Missions: W. Koteskey; alternate—D. F. Binder.

Offering: The Sunday offering for missions and debt reduction amounted to approximately \$1,750.00 in cash and pledges.

1939

Conference convened Wednesday, May 17, 1939, at 2 P. M., at Blissfield.

Centennial year of the Evangelical church in Michigan. Seventy-fifth anniversary in the history of the Michigan Conference. Special program arranged for the occasion.

Bishop G. E. Epp presiding.

Secretary, F. W. Kirn; assistants, A. E. Kurth, G. A. Spitler, S. P. Kirn, O. G. Knechtel, W. P. Peck, D. R. Kring.

Deaths: Albert R. Fisher, Samuel Moeller, George H. Simpson, Andrew J. Mullet, Hattie L. Albig, Theresa C. Krueger.

Licensed: Harley F. Bailey.

Ordained: Deacon—C. B. Wilson and G. Allen Steeby; elder—H. R. Krieg, J. H. Koteskey and H. L. Deabler.

Credentials: To W. A. Harrington.

Withdrawn: G. H. Baker, W. R. Frederickson, H. B. Geringer and G. J. Pohly.

District Assignments: Bay City District, D. C. Ostroth; Detroit District, W. H. Watson; Kalamazoo District, E. S. Faust.

Delegate to Board of Missions: Wm. Koteskey; alternate—D. F. Binder.

Conference Administrative Council organized in accordance with General Conference provision.

1940

Conference convened Wednesday, May 15, 1940, at 2 P. M., at Pigeon, Mich.

Bishop G. E. Epp presiding.

Secretary, F. W. Kirn; assistants, S. P. Kirn, O. G. Knechtel, G. A. Spitler, W. P. Peck and D. R. Kring.

Deaths: William H. Fairchild, Noah Frye, George E. Klopfenstein, Mrs. Mary E. Frye.

Licensed: Bernard Hearl, Lawrence E. Lee and Allen Lewis.

Ordained: Deacon—George A. Belknap, Raymond H. Kretchmer, Gerald G. Wilkie; elder—Newell C. Liesemer.

Credentials: To H. L. Matteson.

Withdrawn: W. I. Kaechele, Paul Richards.

Elected: W. H. Watson reelected and Wm. Koteskey elected as district superintendents.

District Assignments: Bay City District, Wm. Koteskey; Kalamazoo District, E. S. Faust; Detroit District, W. H. Watson.

Delegate to Board of Missions: Wm. Koteskey; alternate, L. S. Scheifele.

Offering for missions and conference program, \$1,639.00 in cash and pledges.

MINISTERS OF THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE 1939

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS



REV. E.S. FAUST



REV. W.H. WATSON



REV. D.C. OSTROTH

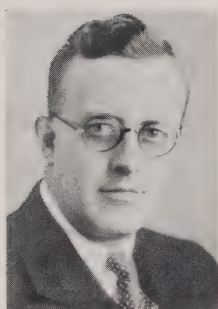


BISHOP

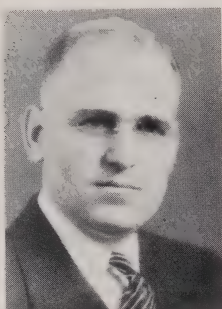
GEORGE E. EPP



REV. F.W. KIRN
CONFERENCE SECRETARY ~



REV. O.G. KNECHTEL
ASST. SECRETARY



REV. A.E. KURTH
ASST. SECRETARY



REV. S.P. KIRN
ASST. SECRETARY



REV. W.P. PECK
ASST. SECRETARY



REV. G.A. SPITLER
ASST. SECRETARY



REV. D.R. KRING
ASST. SECRETARY



REV. C.E. KOTESKEY



REV. J.H. KOTESKEY



REV. S. YOUNG



REV. F.W. FALL



REV. L.S. SCHEIFELE



REV. H.C. HEISE



REV. D.F. BINDER



REV. H.D. OESCHGER



REV. H.I. VOELKER



REV. H.W. LINK



REV. C. TRUESCHAL



REV. L.E. WILLOUGHBY



REV. G. KNECHTEL



REV. C.B. WESTFALL



REV. W.F. BOETTCHER



REV. C.A. PARKER



REV. J.S. DEABLER



REV. H.L. DEABLER



REV. A.D. BURCH



REV. H.A. FRYE



REV. W.S. NELSON



REV. S.R. WURTZ



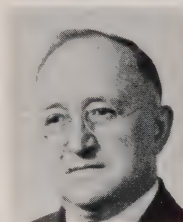
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REV. L.E. BURGESS



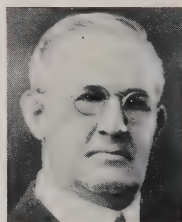
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REV. A.R. KUEHN



REV. L.E. CHAMBERLAIN



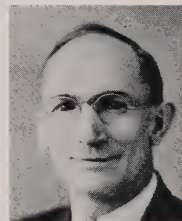
REV. C.A. SANDERS



REV. J.T. SCHURMAN



REV. J.W. HILL



REV. F.L. POHLY



REV. C.C. GIBSON



REV. W. GUMSER



REV. H.A. GUNYAN



REV. W.T. BANDEEN



REV. G.J. KIRN



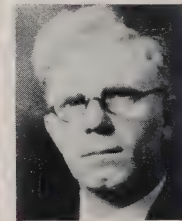
REV. W.C. BASSETT



REV. C.S. HARRINGTON



REV. L.F. WOODWARD



REV. C.A. WILKIE



REV. M. F. LEMPKE



REV. G. A. BELKNAP



REV. C. A. GLASS



REV. G. A. STEEBY



REV. H. E. RYAN



REV. L. A. RUEGSEGGER



REV. G. B. BALL



REV. G. C. MURBACH



REV. R. J. LAUTNER



REV. L. E. MANORE



REV. W. H. FAIRCHILD



REV. G. RADUCHEL



REV. R. H. KRETZSCHMER



REV. H. R. KRIEG



REV. M. R. JEWELL



REV. W. M. PALMER



REV. L. POLMANTEER



REV. S. C. WALTON



REV. E. R. LANTZ



REV. W. CROTHER



REV. H.A. BRANNAN



REV. T.A. MOYER



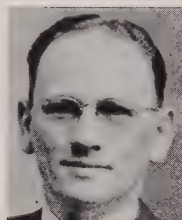
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REV. R.C. SAXTON



REV. O.N. BRAUN



REV. M.R. EVERETT



REV. G.D. EVERETT



REV. J.E. NORTON



REV. W.D. HAYES



REV. E.F. BAILEY



REV. O.M. BAILEY



REV. N.C. LIESEMER



REV. A.L. BINGAMAN



REV. G.E. KLOPPENSTEIN



REV. N.W. KLUMP



REV. C.B. WILSON



REV. E.F. RHOADES



REV. E. PRITCHARD



REV. MCBEERS



REV. P. CRABTREE



REV. J. F. STAEBLER



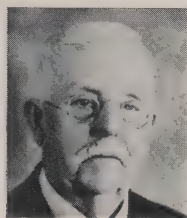
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REV. O. M. ALBIG



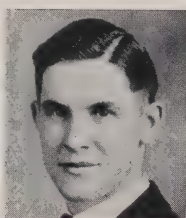
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REV. S. OSTROTH



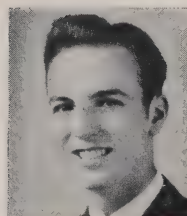
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REV. D. ROSE



REV. C. J. ERICKSON



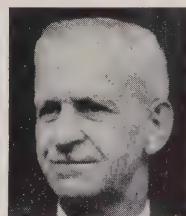
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REV. J. HITCHENS



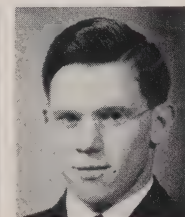
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REV. G. I. FRYE



REV. G. G. WILKIE



REV. W. A. HARRINGTON



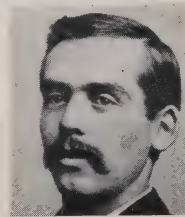
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REV. W. E. GOTTESLEBEN



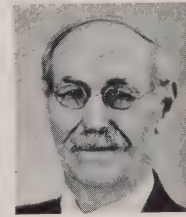
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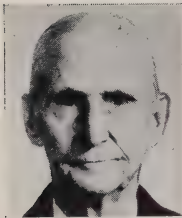
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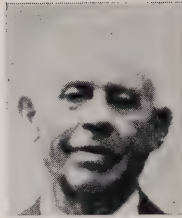
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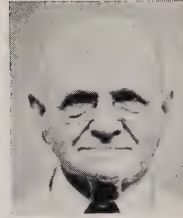
REV. J. KOHN



REV. N. FRYE



REV. W.H. CAMFIELD



REV. O.P. SCHLEICHER



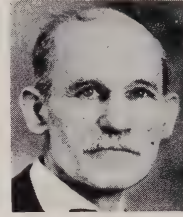
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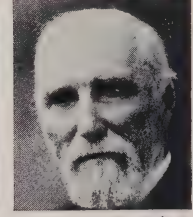
REV. J.W. RICHARDS



REV. C.R. RICHARDS



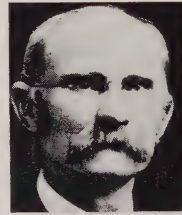
REV. P.H. POHLY



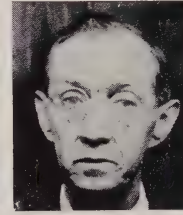
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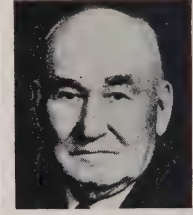
REV. B.E. BELKNAP



REV. A.J. HETTLER



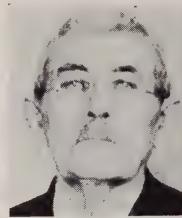
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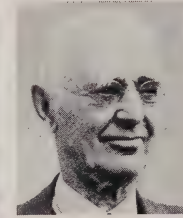
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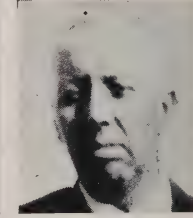
REV. G.H. KELLERMAN



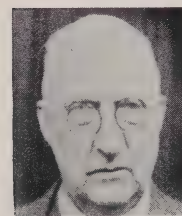
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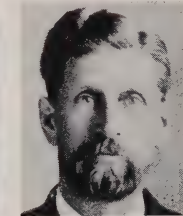
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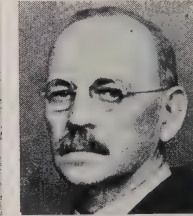
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REV. W.C. SWENK



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REV. O.Y. SCHNEIDER



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REV. W. KOTESKEY



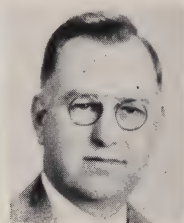
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REV. J.R. NIERGRATH



REV. A.C. BAUMAN



REV. R.R. BROWN



REV. A.C. DEVRIES



REV. E.G. FRYE



REV. R.N. HOLSADLE



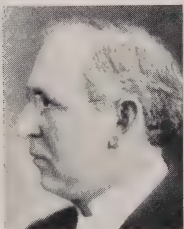
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REV. H.G. WHITE



REV. G.H. SIMPSON



REV. S. MOELLER

DECEASED

SECTION V

LOCAL CHURCH HISTORIES

We herewith present a brief historical sketch of each existing congregation in the conference. In gathering material for the field sketches we have had to depend almost entirely upon the pastors of the churches. The pastors in turn have been dependent upon local records and the memories of aged persons. In many instances important local records have been lost or destroyed. This has complicated matters greatly.

As far as possible we have checked the sketches submitted against the official records of the conference, making corrections where errors have been discovered. That some errors still remain is quite probable. We believe, however, that a high percentage of the material is historically accurate and dependable. All sketches received have been rewritten in an attempt to follow a reasonably uniform pattern. Statistics are given up to 1940.

CHURCHES OF THE BAY CITY DISTRICT

SALEM EVANGELICAL CHURCH, BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

In the year 1875, Rev. J. M. Fox pioneered the way of the Evangelical Church in Bay County, preaching in the home of D. Stuhler, living on Tuscola Road. This resulted in the organizing of a class composed of Fred Koch, in whose home the organization took place, D. Stuhler, Max Hildebrandt and a Mr. Karausa.

In 1876, an enlarged class carried its meetings to what was known as Fireman's Hall in South Bay City. During the next two years there was not a regularly appointed minister although the Reverends J. M. Fox, F. Klump and C. C. Staffeld made frequent visits and ministered to the group.

The conference appointed the first regular pastor in the year 1878, in the person of Rev. F. A. Hamp, and the location of the meetings of the society was changed to the Good Templars Hall, then located on Center Avenue.

The next year, 1879, saw the building of the first structure for use as a place of worship on property located between Tenth and Eleventh Streets, on Monroe Street.

The present edifice, beautifully situated at the corner of Tenth and Madison Streets, across from Birney Park, was erected in the year 1898, and was dedicated in February, 1899, by Bishop Dubs.

Sunday school, young people's society activities and the Ladies' Aid Society have existed from the beginning. During the pastorate of Rev. William Koteskey, the Albright Brotherhood and the Woman's Missionary Society were organized.

The new annex housing facilities for Christian Education and recreation was dedicated in November, 1926.

The congregation entertained the session of the Michigan Conference in the year 1924, and later was host to the Board of Missions of the Evangelical Church.

Four ministers have been recommended by the congregation, in the persons of Otto Knechtel, Gerald Wilkie, Christ Weber and George Baker.

The following ministers have served the congregation in order since 1878: F. A. Hamp, 1878-79; F. Schweitzer, 1879-81; F. Mueller, 1881-82; J. G. Haller, 1882-85; A. Halmhuber, 1885-87; F. Klump, 1887-88; C. Krueger, 1888-91; J. G. Haller, 1891-93; (Association, J. M. Fuchs, 1893-94; J. Riebel, 1894-96; J. Hommel, 1896-98; N. Wunderlich, 1898-99; A. Halmhuber, 1899-1902; J. M. Bittner, 1902-04; W. M. Sippell, 1904-06; W. F. Vogel, 1906-09; H. Voelker, 1909-10; To be supplied, 1910-11). (From 1893 to the present time the Bay City congregation was served by H. Schneider, S. Mueller, A. Lutz, C. M. Kauffman and William Schweiker, the years are not available.) A. D. Faupel, 1911-13; J. A. Scheitzer, 1913-16; G. Knechtel, 1916-20; W. Koteskey, 1920-26; E. D. Riebel, 1926-28; F. W. Kirn, 1928-31; G. A. Spittler, 1931-33; W. F. Bandeen, 1933-37; L. E. Willoughby, 1937-.

During the summer of 1937, an extensive repairs and redecorating program was carried out with an expenditure approximating \$3,800.00, which gives us an attractive, adequate and comfortable place of worship. Added to the work done on both the interior and exterior of the church and parsonage, the young married people's class promoted a program of landscaping the grounds which has materially increased the beauty of the church's surroundings.

The present church membership is 190. The Sunday-school enrollment is 148.

BROWN CITY

The history of the Brown City church has its beginning in Burnside Township in the late sixties. About that time it is reported that William Berge, later a minister in the conference, went to Capac and invited Rev. C. Roehm, then the pastor of that place, to come to Burnside and organize a class. The invitation was accepted and the work established. W. Berge was the first class leader. Herman Buby and W. Berge built the first church.

Brother Roehm was followed by J. M. Fuchs, S. Heininger, R. Spatz and others. Brother Heininger held a successful revival in 1870 and inaugurated the movement to build a church. The building

was completed under the labors of Rev. R. Spatz and was dedicated in 1872 by Rev. J. Meck, presiding elder. This appointment was connected with Capac, Mooretown, Marlette Mission and Imlay City at various times so that the conference historian finds it impossible to give a correct list of the men who served the field as pastor in the earlier days.

However, the following brethren have served as pastor according to information given: J. K. Pontius, S. Henne, W. Berge, J. C. Deitrich, E. Weis (?), E. H. Hess, W. A. Bulgrin, F. E. Walter, W. F. Binder, N. Wunderlich, J. Orth, J. M. Fuchs, F. H. Weber, B. F. Wade, J. Hommel, J. Schmaus, W. F. Boettcher, W. F. Vogel, O. Y. Schneider.

In 1913 under the ministry of Rev. O. Y. Schneider, the society was transferred to Brown City and a new church built. The cornerstone was laid in November by Rev. J. M. Nye, presiding elder. The building was completed early in 1914, being dedicated February 1, 1914, by Bishop S. P. Spreng. The cost was \$3,500.00. This appointment was separated from the Imlay City Circuit and made a mission. In 1920 a seven-room parsonage was purchased for \$1,400.00. In January, 1926, the church edifice was partially destroyed by fire. An adjustment of \$1,600.00 was allowed by the insurance society. Rededicatory services were conducted April 14 to 18, 1926, with Rev. C. H. Stauffacher in charge. \$1,000.00 was pledged on expense of the rebuilding and for parsonage debt. In 1936 the parsonage was moved to a lot beside the church, enlarged and modernized. The church was repaired and enlarged in 1940.

The following have served as pastor since the relocation in Brown City in 1913: Rev. O. Y. Schneider, 1913-14; A. D. Irish, 1914, six months; D. F. Binder, 1914-October, 1917; L. Polmanteer, 1917, about four months; R. R. Brown, 1917-18; F. L. Pohly, 1918-October, 1920; A. E. Soldan, October, 1920-21; A. Ostroth, 1921-23; J. Kirn, 1923-25; M. H. Willard, 1925-28; C. W. Lyman, 1928-29; W. H. Fairchild, 1929-31; S. Young, 1931-36; G. C. Murbach, 1936-40; S. R. Wurtz, 1940-.

The present membership of the church is 81. The Sunday-school enrollment is 90.

CARO CIRCUIT

Caro Appointment

The Caro class was organized by Rev. W. Berge in 1872, in the home of Mr. George Kohl, with six charter members. Services were held in a dwelling house for a number of years.

A frame church was secured during the ministry of Rev. H. Voelker. At about this time the Sunday school was organized with a membership of 30, Mr. G. A. Fuenzel being the first superintendent.

Due to the large influx of English-speaking people, it became im-

perative that services be conducted in the English language. The change to English was made during the pastorate of G. J. Kirn in 1887.

A growing congregation demanded a larger church. In 1904, during the pastorate of Warren Brown, the foundation for a beautiful cement block church was laid in the finest section of Caro. The cornerstone was laid by Bishop Thomas Bowman. The church was completed during the pastorate of Rev. A. Ostroth and dedicated December 10, 1905, Rev. S. P. Spreng, later bishop, officiating. At that time the church membership numbered 120. A Young People's Alliance, Woman's Missionary Society and a Ladies' Aid were among the auxiliaries.

The present church membership is 92 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 130. The Christian Endeavor membership is 38, the Woman's Missionary Society 19, and the Ladies' Aid 20.

Fairgrove Appointment

The work at Fairgrove began in 1882, W. F. Binder being the pastor. Services were first held in a home and later in a schoolhouse. Brother Binder organized the class with nine members in 1882. The Sunday school was organized March 26, 1883, with an enrollment of 24, Mr. John Lauber being elected as the first superintendent.

The need for a church building was keenly felt and in 1894, a new church was erected. The building is still being used by the congregation.

The church membership now numbers 63, the Sunday-school enrollment 75, the Woman's Missionary Society 19, and the Ladies' Aid 22.

Since Caro appeared as a separate pastoral charge in 1895 the following have served as pastor: W. C. Swenk, 1895-98; P. H. Pohly, 1898-1901; W. Brown, 1901-05; A. Ostroth, 1905-09; O. C. Penticoff, 1909-13; H. C. Heise, 1913-15; G. H. Kellermann, 1915-16; C. H. Howe, 1916-18; C. F. Smith, 1918-23; S. Young, 1923-26; B. Mohr, 1926-27; A. C. DeVries, 1927-30; C. A. Sanders, 1930-35; W. F. Boettcher, 1935-39; R. H. Lahr, 1939-.

CASS CITY

Rev. Stephen Henne was the first Evangelical minister to preach in Cass City. The society was organized in 1865 with twelve charter members. The first church was erected in 1888 under the labors of E. H. Hess and B. F. Wade. The church was remodeled in 1910 during the ministry of Rev. J. A. Schweitzer. The parsonage was extensively remodeled in 1938, Rev. R. N. Holsaple being the pastor.

In the earlier years Cass City was apparently served as a part of the

Sebewaing Circuit. Cass City first appears in the list of appointments in 1876.

Since that time the following have served as pastor: John Miller, 1876-77 (Cass City and Sebewaing served together); John Miller and F. A. Hamp, 1877-78; F. Klump, 1878-80; W. F. Binder, 1880-82; E. H. Hess, 1882-83; B. F. Wade, 1883-85; H. Voelker, 1885-87; N. Wunderlich, 1887-90; G. J. Kirn, 1890-93; A. E. Bogen, 1893-95; C. W. Ross, 1895-96; J. M. Bittner, 1896-97; O. Y. Schneider, 1897-98; F. Klump, 1898-1901; L. Brumm, 1901-03; L. V. Soldan, 1903-05; W. Berge, 1905-08; J. A. Schweitzer, 1908-13; D. J. Feather, 1913-16; S. Cormany, 1916-19; A. H. Butzbach, 1919-21; F. L. Pohly, 1921-24; C. F. Smith, 1924-29; C. W. Lyman, 1929-31; C. F. Smith, 1931-32; H. I. Voelker, 1932-33; G. A. Spittler, 1933-37; R. N. Holsaple, 1937-October, 1940; S. P. Kirn, December, 1940.

The present church membership is 152.

The Sunday-school enrollment is 171.

CHESANING CIRCUIT—CHESANING AND BRADY CHURCHES

Chesaning

It pleased the Lord in the year of 1870 A. D., to gather in this vicinity, at that time almost a wilderness, a small company of his people, to form a Christian community.

The beginning was small and was preyed upon by many adverse forces, yet the purpose of God was not frustrated. The seed scattered with prayer, faith and endeavor brought its yield at the appointed time.

In 1868 G. Knauf and family, and Martin G. Schwanz and family left Canada, where they were members of the Evangelical Association, and purchased farms in Maple Grove Township, just east of the village of Chesaning. William Berg, a member of the Evangelical Association, came from Owosso and settled in Maple Grove. Christian Moessner, another member of the church in Owosso, also moved into Chesaning, and opened a shoe store.

J. M. Fox (Fuchs) pastor in charge of the Flint Circuit, hearing of the settlement of these families, visited them and preached a few times in Maple Grove, but no steps toward organization were taken until the fall of 1870, when Rev. C. Roehm, then on the Owosso Circuit, came into the neighborhood, organizing the above families into a class of eight members, with Christian Moessner as their leader. The class became a part of the Owosso Circuit.

At first the services were held irregularly, once in four weeks, or nearly so, the circuit at that time being very large, extending over six counties.

Other families moved into the community and the little class grew so that in 1876, during the pastorate of S. Henne, a church was built and dedicated the same year by Bishop J. J. Esher. In 1901 this

edifice was repaired and somewhat remodeled to answer the growing condition. Shortly after the erection of the church, permission was granted the Baptist people to use the church while their church was being built.

After the organization of the class, the following families united with the church: Sterneman, Schmitgall, Richter, Bauer, Luber, Riedel, Voelkmer, Brenning, Bresieu, and Carl and Frederick Greenwald. Up to the pastorate of F. Klump the work was all in German. Brother Klump introduced some English. As a result there were 17 accessions to the church and a nice Sunday school and Ladies' Aid organized. Under his successors the English work was dropped.

During the early winter of 1900-1901 another effort in English was made by the junior pastor, Rev. J. A. Halmhuber, which was blessed with eight conversions, twelve accessions, a Sunday school of 35 members, a Young People's Alliance of 17 members and a Ladies' Aid of 13 members. Since that time the work has been carried on in English.

Brady

During the labors of Rev. J. Pontius an opening was found in Brady Township. The following families were converted and admitted into the church: Wm. Kranz, G. Salzwedel, Carl Hochschild, Fred Schultz, Carl Spiegel, to which later were added the families of Wm. Gode, Wm. Zabel, and Wm. Ehlert. In 1900 these families were formed into a class, with Wm. Kranz as leader. The Methodist Protestant church at Brady Center was secured as a place of worship. Later this church was purchased and is still used as a house of worship.

In 1901, the Chesaning and Brady appointments were separated from the Owosso Circuit and constituted Chesaning Mission. This arrangement has been continued until the present time.

The following pastors have served this field: C. Roehm, 1870-72; J. M. Haug, 1872-75; S. Henne, 1875-77; L. Brumm, 1877-80; J. M. Fox, 1880-83; L. Brumm, 1883-86; J. Orth and A. Frye, 1886-87; J. Pontius, 1887 to fall of 1889 (the time of his death); J. M. Fox, fall of 1889 to spring of 1892; L. Brumm, spring of 1892 to fall of same year; F. Klump, fall of 1892 to 1893; H. T. Strauch, 1893-96; J. Schmaus, 1896-98; Wm. Vogel, 1898-1900; W. Vogel and J. A. Halmhuber, 1900-01; J. A. Halmhuber, 1901-03; W. H. Halmhuber, 1903-05; A. D. Faupel, 1905-07; W. Y. Pohly, 1907-08; F. H. Horn, 1908-09; W. F. Boettcher, 1909-10; H. Voelker, 1910-11; C. F. Smith, 1911-12; D. J. Feather, 1912-13; 1913 to be supplied; W. A. Shelly, 1914-18; F. A. Hood, 1918-20; C. Trueschal, 1920-21; G. B. Baldwin, 1921-24; M. C. Beers, 1924-31; A. J. Hettler, 1931-33; P. E. Richards, 1933-35; H. A. Gunyan, 1935-.

The present membership is 35 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 60.

COLEMAN**Geneva-Hope**

About 1887, a Union Sunday school was organized in a schoolhouse located about three and one-half miles south and one and three-fourths miles east of Coleman. Those principally responsible for the school were Mrs. Malcolm McDonald, Mrs. Isabella McDonald, Mrs. Kirby, Mrs. Niel McDonald and Mrs. John McDonald who were Presbyterians and John Swenk and family who were Evangelicals. Rev. L. B. Felix, pastor at North Bradley, came in 1887 as the first Evangelical minister to preach in this community. A class was organized and the first quarterly conference was held in 1888, Rev. C. C. Staffeld being presiding elder. This class became known as the East Geneva class.

In 1892, under the ministry of Rev. F. Koehler, a church was erected at a cost of \$900.00 and was dedicated by Rev. S. P. Spreng, later Bishop, in the fall of 1892. Mr. Fred Rose was the first class leader and Mr. John Clark the first Sunday-school superintendent. At the time of organization, there were about fifteen members in the class and about 25 enrolled in the Sunday school.

In 1886, through the instrumentality of Mr. and Mrs. John Mainhood, a class was organized about three miles south of Coleman. A Union Sunday school was conducted, first in a schoolbuilding and later in the building which was erected in 1893. In 1903, during the pastorate of C. B. Stroh, a new brick church was erected, being dedicated by F. C. Berger, presiding elder, December 27, 1903. This was known as the Hope church. The first Sunday-school superintendent was John Mainhood.

About Christmas time in 1921, the Hope church was burned. After loss of the Hope church the East Geneva and Hope congregations were merged, a new stone veneer church erected, about midway between the sites of the original churches, under the new name Geneva-Hope. The present membership is 68.

Salem

The Salem church of the Coleman Circuit is located about three and three-quarters miles west of Coleman on "Nine Mile Road." This appointment grew out of a Union Sunday school organized in the Orr schoolhouse in 1904. While pastor of Coleman Mission, Rev. C. B. Stroh organized the class as the Orr Class of the Evangelical Church. There were 17 charter members. In 1907, under the ministry of Rev. A. J. Hettler, an abandoned church in Ohio was secured and rebuilt on the present site and the church renamed as the Salem church. The present membership is 46.

Lyle

Some time previous to 1920, a Union Sunday school was organized in the Lyle schoolhouse. It was later taken up by Evangelical ministers as a preaching point. During the ministry of G. H. Simpson, it appears that the Lyle class was formed. Rev. L. V. Soldan was elected Sunday-school superintendent and has been a splendid help to the work. Later a church edifice was erected. The present membership is 15.

The following have entered the ministry from the Coleman Circuit: W. C. Swenk, W. D. Hayes, Geo. Bates, E. F. Bailey and M. C. Beers. The present membership on the field is 129. The Sunday-school enrollment is 132.

The following have served the field as pastor: W. C. Swenk, 1888-90; A. Kaechele, 1890-91; W. Brown, 1891-92; F. Koehler, 1892-94; W. C. Graves, 1894-95; Supplied, 1895-97; M. A. Oldt, 1897-99; J. F. Kirn, 1899-1900; F. H. Bayles, 1900-01; V. Buxton, 1901-02; C. W. Ross, 1902-03; C. B. Stroh, 1903-05; E. A. Perone, 1905-06; S. C. Croff, 1906-07; A. J. Hettler, 1907-09; S. Young, 1909-10; L. S. Davison, 1910-11; G. Raduchel, 1911-13; D. F. Binder, 1913-14; O. Morningstar, 1914-15; C. J. Gurney, 1915-16; C. A. Sanders, 1916-18; F. W. Fall, 1918-20; H. E. Spade, 1920-21; J. F. Kirn, 1921-23; G. H. Simpson, 1923-26; W. A. Shelly, 1926-28; R. H. Lahr, 1928-32; E. L. Marsh, 1932-34; C. B. Wilson, 1934-40; B. Hearl, 1940-.

ELKTON

The beginnings of the Elkton congregation date back to 1883 when Rev. H. Schuknecht, pastor of the Sebewaing Charge, made several visits to the Elkton community, preaching at intervals during the year. His successor, Rev. D. W. Schafer, continued the visits, laying the foundation for the work.

As assistant pastor of the Sebewaing Circuit, Rev. G. J. Kirn came to the Elkton community in 1886. The Becker and Berne appointments were established during that year. The Becker appointment was located about three miles south of Elkton, the services being held in a very small log schoolhouse. At that time the village of Elkton did not exist. In 1887 the Becker appointment was attached to Verona Mission with G. J. Kirn as pastor. Another appointment known as Olivers, located a short distance north of Elkton, was merged with the Becker appointment to form Elkton.

During 1888 a parsonage was built at Elkton and later in the year a small frame church was built. Rev. C. C. Staffeld, presiding elder, gave the pastor Rev. Kirn much assistance by soliciting funds for the building, from lumbermen operating in the community. The first services in the English language, were conducted early in 1889, much to the displeasure and apprehension of the German people. A large percentage of the people settling in the Elkton community were from Canada, many of them staunch Evangelicals.

The congregation grew to the extent that in 1898 it was necessary to build a much larger and more modern church. Just as extensive repairs and improvements were being completed on this church, due to an accident, fire broke out destroying the building, January 15, 1913. Rebuilding operations were begun immediately and a third church, finer and more commodious than those preceding was erected. It was dedicated free of debt, September 14, 1913, by Bishop S. P. Spreng, Peter Scheurer being the pastor. In 1910, during the pastorate of Rev. P. H. Pohly, a fine nine-room parsonage was erected. During Rev. Pohly's ministry, a very unusual revival with a large number of converts occurred. At least five young men have entered the ministry from this congregation.

During the pastorate of H. C. Heise, 1921-26, use of the German language was discontinued in all public services and the duplex envelope system introduced. While C. G. Kaatz was pastor, the basement was constructed under the present church building. In the fall of 1930, while H. Stressman was pastor, extensive landscaping was done. Additional landscaping and other improvements were done under leadership of J. S. Deabler. Elkton is now one of our finest congregations with a church membership of 203 and 272 enrolled in the Sunday school.

The following have served the church as pastor: H. Schuknecht, 1883-84; D. W. Schafer, 1884-86; G. J. Kirn, 1886-89; W. F. Vogel, 1889-92; W. Bulgrin, 1892-94; B. F. Wade, 1894-97; W. Berge, 1897-1901; S. Salsbery, 1901-05; H. Voelker, 1905-08; F. W. Dill, 1908-09; W. F. Vogel, 1909-10; P. H. Pohly, 1910-12; Peter Scheurer, 1912-16; B. Mohr, 1916-21; H. C. Heise, 1921-26; D. F. Binder, 1926-28; C. G. Kaatz, 1928-30; H. Stressman, 1930-36; J. S. Deabler, 1936-40; R. J. Lautner, 1940-.

EVART CIRCUIT

Evart

As far back as 1872 or 1873, before Reed City, Hersey or Evart appear as separate charges in the list of appointments, Evart became one of the preaching appointments of Osceola Mission. The work began when in 1873, Rev. L. Brumm began preaching in the home of John Arndt. Other ministers followed and about 1879 or 1880, a great revival broke out under the ministry of Rev. W. Berge. During the ministry of Rev. E. Weiss, the society was organized September 11, 1883. The congregation was incorporated and a church erected, the dedication occurring in November, 1884, Bishop J. J. Esher officiating.

Sears

In 1923, Rev. Ed. F. Bailey held a very successful revival at Chippewa. July 1, 1924, Rev. A. C. Bauman organized this group as

the Sears Evangelical church. Due to the construction of State Highway M. 10, the church was moved back, rebuilt and rededicated November 6, 1938, Rev. D. C. Ostroth officiating at the dedication. The state bore the cost of reconstruction.

The present church membership of the charge is 150 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 181.

Since the beginning of the work in 1873, the following have served as pastor: L. Brumm, 1873-76; W. Schaefer, 1876-77; F. F. Meyer, 1877-79; W. Berge, 1879-82; E. Weiss, 1882-85; J. Meck, 1885-88; S. Henne 1888-91; E. Weiss, 1891-94; J. Hommel and J. G. Neuber, 1894-95; J. Hommel, 1895-96; C. Ude, 1896-97; H. Voelker, 1897-99; H. Voelker and B. Mohr, 1899-1901; W. F. Vogel and B. Mohr, 1901-02; W. F. Vogel, 1902-03; J. Riebel and A. D. Faupel, 1903-05; J. Riebel, 1905-06; C. F. Giese, 1906-07; F. H. Horn, 1907-08; S. Moeller, 1908-10; C. A. Sanders, 1910-11; W. F. Vogel, 1911-12; A. R. Fisher and J. Hommel, 1912-14; A. R. Fisher and Vern Blanchard, 1914-15; H. Stressman, 1915-16 (left for school in fall of 1916); H. Donneworth, 1916-19; L. E. Chamberlain, 1919-20; L. J. Van Sickler, 1920-21; T. A. Moyer, 1921-22; A. C. Bauman, 1922-26; S. R. Wurtz, 1926-28; W. D. Hayes, 1928-29; Wm. Gumser, 1929-33; G. B. Ball, 1933-39; C. E. Koteskey, 1939-.

FLINT FIRST CHURCH

Available information indicates that the work of the Evangelical church in Flint began sometime in the fifties when Daniel Strohman of the Ohio Conference established an appointment in this place. It was one of a large circuit in and around Genesee County. With the organization of the Michigan Conference in 1864, the appointments Flint, Thedford, Oregon, Fremont, Cohoctah and Genoa were constituted Genesee Mission, Rev. C. Dieke being appointed pastor. There were 56 members. For some time meetings were held in the homes of the members, the home of John Zimmerman in the Pines (now Glenwood Ave.), being the largest available and most frequently used. The German language was used for many years. Gradually some English was introduced until in 1897 under the pastorate of H. C. Fuerstenau the use of the German was discontinued. The last charter member of the society, Mrs. John Stoll, passed to her reward April 28, 1926.

In 1869, during the pastorate of Rev. C. Roehm, a brick church was built at the extreme western part of the (then) village, now known as Second and Asylum Streets. The building was dedicated March 7, 1869. Three years later a parsonage was built, E. Weiss being pastor.

In 1897, Flint was taken from the circuit and constituted a mission with H. C. Fuerstenau as pastor. Nine years later, with a membership of 141, paying a salary of \$600.00 and parsonage, the society became a self-supporting station, J. R. Niergarth being the pastor. The

church underwent extensive enlargements, repairs and improvements in 1899 under the ministry of J. J. Schuknecht, in 1903 during the pastorate of J. R. Niergarth and about 1911 under the leadership of J. S. Deabler. November 3, 1912, the mortgage, incurred through debt involved in remodeling, was burned. The Knights of the Cross, a young men's Sunday-school class, purchased lots on the east side and established a mission, now our Kearsley Park church.

During the ministry of C. B. Stroh, the church made rapid growth resulting in plans for a new church edifice. With plans and specifications ready, the United States entered the World War and the project was abandoned for the time being. Talk for a new building was revived during the ministry of C. C. Gibson, but reactions due to the war blocked the successful consummation of the task.

In 1922, under the leadership of C. A. Wilkie, the church was again remodeled, Sunday-school rooms being added and other improvements made. A fine new parsonage was built, the total cost of work on parsonage and church being about \$19,000.00. The church is organized for service and is missionary-minded. In addition to meeting its missionary and benevolent budgets, it is busy building up new missions in the city. In 1928, it had three mission Sunday schools under its supervision, the schools being conducted and preaching at two appointments provided by competent laymen from the First church. The church is deeply evangelistic and has waged numerous campaigns under leadership of able evangelists. On three occasions—1874, 1913 and 1925, this society has had the privilege of entertaining the conference.

Due to changes in the community, growth is less rapid now than was true a few years ago. The present membership is 428.

The following ministers have served this work: Daniel Strohman, C. Dieke, 1864-65; C. Dieke and W. Riemke, 1865-66; J. M. Fuchs, 1866-67; J. M. Fuchs and E. Weiss, 1867-68; C. Roehm and C. Weisbrod, 1868-69; C. Roehm, 1869-70; M. Speck, 1870-71; E. Weiss, 1871-73; J. M. Haug, 1873-74; C. Ude, 1874-76; L. Brumm, 1876-79; J. K. Pontius, 1879-81; S. Henne, 1881-84; F. Klump, 1884-87; H. Voelker, 1887-88; W. A. Koehler, 1888-91; E. Rath, 1891-93; J. M. Bittner, 1893-94; W. Berge, 1894-96; W. Berge and E. G. Frye, 1896-97; H. C. Fuerstenau, 1897-98; J. J. Schuknecht, 1898-1900; E. M. Renner, 1900-01; W. A. Koehler, 1901-03; J. R. Niergarth, 1903-07; W. R. Currier, 1907-08; C. C. Staffeld, 1908-10; J. S. Deabler, 1910-14; C. B. Stroh, 1914-19; C. C. Gibson, 1919-22; C. A. Wilkie, 1922-28; D. F. Binder, 1928-33; H. I. Voelker, 1933-40; F. W. Kirn, 1940-.

FLINT KEARSLEY PARK

Early in 1913, the "Knights of the Cross," a Young Men's Sunday-school class of the Fourth Ward church, now First church, purchased three lots in Kearsley Park, a growing subdivision in Flint. A bunga-

low was built on these lots in the fall of 1913. This bungalow was the first chapel, the first service being held in this building December 7, 1913. February 11, 1914, Rev. J. S. Deabler, pastor at Fourth Ward church, organized the Kearsley Park Mission congregation with a charter membership of 30. The following officers were elected: Trustees, Rev. J. H. Keeler, Ezra G. Davis and Henry Schroeder; class leader, Rev. J. H. Keeler; exhorter, Mrs. Ezra G. Davis; Sunday-school superintendent, Ezra G. Davis. Rev. J. S. Deabler served as pastor until 1914.

The rapid growth of the mission required a larger building. July 25, 1915, Rev. F. W. Kirn, the first regular pastor, turned the first sod for the new building. Rev. J. M. Nyce, presiding elder, laid the cornerstone September 12, 1915. The present building, which was but the Sunday-school unit of the contemplated plant, was dedicated March 11, 1916, by Bishop S. C. Breyfogel. The total cost was \$11,500.00. The bungalow mission building was then converted into a parsonage.

In 1940 the congregation enlarged its auditorium and made extensive improvements at a cost of \$12,000.00. The church now has a beautiful sanctuary and is well equipped for splendid service in the community.

The church is fully organized with active auxiliaries. The present membership is 231.

The following have served as pastor: J. S. Deabler, 1913-14; C. B. Stroh, two months to end of June, 1914; F. W. Kirn, June, 1914-17; L. H. Hayes, 1917 to November, 1918 (resigned because of ill health); G. I. Frye, November, 1918-April, 1919; A. D. Smith, 1919-July, 1920 (died); L. E. Willoughby, 1920-24; C. G. Kaatz, 1924-28; L. Polmanteer, 1928-32; H. C. Heise, 1932-36; H. W. Link, 1936-41; C. B. Westfall, 1941-.

GLADWIN

In 1886 the committee on boundaries recommended that Gladwin and surroundings be taken up as a mission. L. B. Felix was appointed to the field as missionary. There is no further mention of the work in this section until 1900 when F. H. Bayles, pastor at Coleman began preaching at North Sage and South Grout. Riley and East Grout were taken up by V. Buxton in 1901, East Grout being dropped again during the year. A class of six members was organized at Riley in 1903, also a class at Smith Creek. Sunday schools were organized at Riley, Smith Creek, and Section Eight in 1904. Land, stone, and rough lumber to the amount of about \$300.00 were donated at each place. During this period, Rev. C. W. Ross was associated with Rev. Buxton and opened a Sunday school at Butman. The church at Smith Creek was dedicated in 1904, Bishop Bowman officiating.

In 1905, S. C. Croff opened preaching places at Podunk and Nester Dam. During E. A. Perone's pastorate, the work was further extended. Assisted by W. H. Watson September, 1906 to April, 1907, new preaching places were opened at Bard, Nolan, Gladwin and reopened at North Sage. Five revivals were held resulting in 136 conversions, 87 accessions, the church membership being doubled.

The Riley church was completed by E. Willard in 1912 and the Bard church, by S. Young in 1914. In 1921 the work was divided, Bard and Lyle from the Coleman work constituting Beaverton Mission. This arrangement continued for only one year. Round Lake Appointment taken up about 1913 was dropped about 1921.

A parsonage and barn were purchased in 1926 at a cost of \$1,925.00. The present work is composed of Riley, Bard and Smith Creek.

S. Young and W. H. Watson entered the ministry from the Smith Creek church.

The following ministers have served this field: L. B. Felix, 1886-; F. H. Bayles, 1900-01; V. Buxton, 1901-05; S. C. Croff, 1905-06; E. A. Perone, 1906-08; F. H. Bailey, 1908-09; C. M. Early, 1909-10; G. Raduchel, 1910-11; George Bates, 1911-12; E. Willard, 1912-13; A. M. Oviatt, 1913-14; S. Young, 1914-15; W. E. Gottesleben, 1915-16; A. J. Hettler, 1916-21; W. Warrilow, 1921-22; L. F. Burkey, 1922-24; E. F. Bailey, 1924-29; F. A. Hood, 1929-32; L. Ruegsegger, 1932-37; W. M. Palmer, 1937-41; M. R. Jewell, 1941-.

The present membership of the circuit is 103. The Sunday school enrollment is 213.

GREENWOOD

East Greenwood Appointment

In the year 1865, Rev. S. Henne, pastor at Capac, traveled through the woods and marshes of St. Clair County to Greenwood Township and organized a class in a little log schoolhouse. His successor, Rev. C. Roehm, not being able to preach in the English language, organized two German classes. In 1874, during the pastorate of Rev. J. Orth, a log church was built. In 1882 the classes were consolidated and in 1901-02 a new church was erected. The erection of the new church was begun under the ministry of Rev. O. Y. Schneider and completed during the pastorate of Rev. W. M. Sippell. The church was dedicated by Rev. G. Heinmiller, later bishop.

Shortly after the completion of the new church, Brother Sippell conducted a very successful revival in which a large number were converted and brought into the church. F. Koehler, F. L. Pohly, W. E. Gottesleben, and Paul Shelly entered the ministry from this church. Mrs. E. A. Perone, one time member of this church, for several years shared the lot of a minister's wife.

In the earlier days this church was served with Forestville, Lex-

ington, and Lenox at various times so that it is not possible to give with certainty the names of the early pastors. Greenwood appears in the list of appointments in 1888 with F. E. Walter as pastor. Then it disappears until 1898.

The following have served since that time: W. A. Bulgrin, 1898-1900; F. H. Weber, 1900-01; O. Y. Schneider, 1901-02; W. M. Sippell, 1902-04; C. Rodesiler, 1904-07; W. H. Watson, 1907-09; Philip Howe, 1909-10; W. H. Fairchild, 1910-12; A. M. Oviatt, 1912-13; D. C. Brown, 1913-14 (1914 to be supplied); A. R. Kuehn, 1915-16; H. G. Bushong, 1916-19; W. F. Boettcher, 1919-22; W. A. Shelly, 1922-24; Ernest Haines, 1924-25; F. H. Bailey, 1925-26; F. A. Hood, 1926-29; E. Willard, 1929-30; W. H. Fairchild, 1930-31; S. Young, 1931-36; G. C. Murbach, 1936-40; S. R. Wurtz, 1940-41; M. F. Lempke, 1941-.

The present membership for this church is 22. The Sunday-school enrollment 31.

Buel Appointment

In the year of 1899, Rev. W. A. Bulgrin organized a class in Buel Township, Sanilac County. In the year of 1905, Rev. C. Rodesiler accomplished the building of a frame church which was dedicated by Rev. Peter Scheurer. This church is still a part of the Greenwood Circuit. Rev. A. R. Kuehn entered the ministry from this class.

HERSEY

The Bethlehem (Hersey) Society was organized in 1867, under the first missionary, Rev. Carl Dieke. A log church was built on the farm of Adam Ruppert, 2½ miles west of Hersey. This was the first church in Osceola County. During the pastorate of Rev. J. Orth, 1868-70, an appointment was taken up in Hersey. Rev. S. Henne, the third missionary, undertook the building of the Salem (Hersey) church. The Hersey Class was organized, the church completed and dedicated in May, 1873, C. Roehm being pastor and J. Meck, presiding elder.

During J. Riebel's pastorate the church was remodeled at a cost of \$1,500.00. The parsonage was remodeled under the ministry of A. R. Fisher at an expense of \$800.00. During 1921, a Sunday school annex 20 x 35 feet, two stories and basement with six classrooms, was erected. The cost was \$2,500.00. Rev. S. Moeller was pastor.

At the time the church was organized, all services were conducted in German. Gradually English was introduced, first by announcing the text in English, then through the league, Sunday school, evening services and finally English was used entirely during the pastorate of S. Moeller.

The following have served this field as pastor: C. Dieke, 1867-68; J. Orth, 1868-70; S. Henne, 1870-72; C. Roehm, 1872-74; L. Brumm, 1874-77; D. W.

Schaefer, 1877-78; F. F. Meyer, 1878-80; W. Berge, 1880-82; E. Weiss, 1882-86; J. Meck, 1886-89; S. Henne, 1889-91; E. Weiss, 1891-94; J. Hommel, 1894-96; C. Ude, 1896-97; H. Voelker, 1897-01; W. Vogel, 1901-03; J. Riebel, 1903-07; C. Rodesiler, 1907-08; J. F. Kirn, 1908-11; A. R. Fisher, 1911-15; P. H. Pohly, 1915-18; S. Moeller, 1918-23; G. Raduchel, 1923-25; C. A. Sanders, 1925-26; W. H. Fowler, 1926-28; C. E. Koteskey, 1928-34; H. A. Frye, 1934-38; E. Pritchard, 1938.

The present membership of this society is 119. The Sunday-school enrollment is 148.

HORTON BAY CIRCUIT

Horton Bay Appointment

The Horton Bay class was organized in 1896 by Rev. W. F. Kring, at that time pastor at Petoskey. Religious services had been conducted in the community for some years previous by ministers of different denominations. In 1897, during the pastorate of Warren Brown, the Sunday school was organized, Mr. Frank Coleman being the first superintendent. Horton Bay was at that time a part of the Petoskey Charge, Epsilon and North Bay appointments being also a part of the circuit. The present church building was erected in 1898 under the direction and labor of Rev. Warren Brown. In 1899 the present parsonage was purchased for the sum of \$250.00. At the conference session in 1899, Horton Bay and North Bay were constituted a circuit and Rev. W. H. Davidson appointed as the first pastor of the new field.

Since 1899 the following ministers have served this field of labor: W. H. Davidson, 1899-1900; W. C. Long, 1900-01; S. C. Croff, 1901-02; C. H. Howe, 1902-06; S. McDonald, 1906-07; W. D. Gamertsfelder, 1907-08; E. A. Perone, 1908-11; B. E. Belknap, 1911-14; E. Willard, 1914-15; G. Heximer, 1915-17; C. A. Strait, 1917-18; C. B. Greenman, 1918-19; O. Y. Schneider, 1919-20; G. H. Simpson, 1920-21; Cleo Meyer, 1921-22; W. E. Gottesleben, 1922-23; E. Pritchard, 1923-25; H. J. Rhines, 1925-26; G. G. Davis, 1926-27; R. C. Miller, 1927-31; M. R. Jewell, 1931-36; O. M. Bailey, 1936-40; C. B. Wilson, 1940.

The following ministers have entered the ranks of the Michigan Conference from this field of labor: Philip Howe, C. E. Koteskey, W. Koteskey, J. H. Koteskey, and George Belknap. One minister's wife, Mrs. L. E. Chamberlain, came from this field.

North Bay Appointment

The North Bay Sunday school was established in 1878 with Mr. William Genshaw as the first superintendent. The church was built in 1880 during the pastorate of Rev. H. Voelker. At this time the field was known as Bear Lake and was served from Petoskey.

The men of the church cut the timber from which the lumber for

the church was sawn. In 1899 this field was joined to Horton Bay with W. H. Davidson the first pastor of the new field. The North Bay church has been served with Horton Bay since that time, the list of ministers given above having served both churches.

The present church membership on the circuit is 68. The Sunday-school enrollment for the field is 116.

KILMANAGH

The Kilmanagh church had its beginnings about 1865 when an Evangelical nucleus was formed in the Brady settlement located between Sebewaing and Kilmanagh. Services were first held in the private houses. About 1874 a log church was built by the Kilmanagh people a little southeast of the village. About this time a camp meeting was held in this community under the pastorate of Brother Schaefer resulting in a sweeping revival with about 100 conversions. A new church, a frame building 40 x 70 feet, was erected in 1887 during the pastorate of P. Alles. Extensive improvements were made in 1913 and again in 1925 when seven fine Sunday-school classrooms were provided. In 1911, this church was made a station, being served alone since that time as a self-supporting church. Previous to 1911 it was part of a circuit.

In 1933, the church was destroyed by a fire that was evidently of incendiary origin. With fine courage the congregation set to work on a new building. In September of the same year a fine new brick structure was completed at a cost of \$10,000.00.

In 1941, a fine new brick veneer parsonage was erected. This congregation now has exceptionally fine equipment with which to serve a splendid rural community.

The present membership of this church is 130. The Sunday-school enrollment is 176.

Some of the early ministers were W. Riemke, S. Henne, W. Berge, E. Weiss, S. Heininger. Since this church was part of a circuit earlier we are not able to trace all the ministers and their periods of service. Since 1903 the following have served: J. Staebler, 1903-05; G. Heximer, 1905-07; A. D. Faupel, 1907-11; J. F. Kirn, 1911-14; A. Halmhuber, 1914-16; D. J. Feather, 1916-19; C. E. Koteskey, 1919-25; G. Raduchel, 1925-29; C. F. Smith, 1929-31; M. C. Beers, 1931-39; G. B. Ball, 1939.

LEELENAU

Keswick Appointment

In 1867, a Union Sunday school was organized in the Keswick community, the meetings being held in a log schoolhouse. Some Evangelicals from Canada moved into the community and in 1871, the Michigan Conference took up the "Grand Traverse Region" as a

mission and appointed Rev. E. H. Hess as the first pastor. It would appear that Rev. Hess began preaching in the Keswick community, for in 1872, the Sunday school was reorganized as an Evangelical school with Mr. Jacob Groesser as superintendent. The first church services were held in the homes and in the schoolhouse. A log parsonage was later erected.

In 1885, a site was secured, materials gathered and under the ministry of Rev. A. E. Bogen, the Keswick church was erected. The church was dedicated the last Sunday in September, 1888, Bishop Thomas Bowman officiating.

In 1875, Grand Traverse Mission was divided, the Eastern half being named Traverse City and the Western half Leelenau Mission. Changes have been made at various times in the appointments that have constituted the Leelenau Charge. Since 1887, Keswick has been a part of Leelenau Charge. The parsonage was built during the pastorate of Rev. J. G. Neuber between 1896 and 1900.

Bingham Appointment

The first religious services held in the Bingham community were held in the home of a family by the name of Porter. After the erection of the schoolhouse, services were held there for several years. Beginning about 1885, both Methodist and Evangelical ministers held services in the schoolhouse on alternate Sundays.

Rev. J. G. Neuber reports that in 1896 he was appointed to the Leelenau Charge. He found twelve members at the Bingham appointment worshipping in a schoolhouse. Later, a desire was expressed for a church building. Five denominations were represented in the community though only the Evangelicals appear to have been organized. After several meetings had been held, a large majority voted to build an Evangelical church. Subscriptions were taken, a lot secured, materials gathered and on the first Sunday in October, the church was dedicated, Rev. J. A. Frye officiating. Pledges were made to cover the remaining indebtedness. In 1921 and 1922 and again in 1936-37 extensive repairs and improvements were made. The present church membership is 31. Rev. B. E. Belknap entered the ministry from this church.

Solon Appointment

Services in the Solon community were begun in 1884, though the congregation was not formally organized until 1886. In that year, the church was erected and dedicated as the "German Zion Congregational Church." It was an independent organization and not connected with the Congregational church. There were sixteen charter members, three of whom are still living: Frank Amtsbuechler, John Lautner and Theresia Hockeboon.

In 1893 the Solon congregation became affiliated with the Evangelical Church, though for many years previously, Evangelical ministers had served as pastors. Since 1923 the church has been known as the "Solon Zion Evangelical church." Rev. R. J. Lautner entered the ministry from this church.

Kasson Appointment

The date when the Kasson appointment was established as a preaching place by the Evangelical Church cannot be identified. Rev. J. G. Neuber reports that Kasson was a part of the Leelenau Circuit in 1896 when he was appointed pastor of the charge. Services were conducted in a schoolhouse.

In the fall of 1897 the community experienced a glorious revival which resulted in many conversions and in a real manifestation of the power of God to save from sin. At once a strong desire for a more suitable place of worship was manifested. There were numerous offers to donate substantial amounts of labor and materials for a church edifice.

The present church was built and was ready for dedication in the spring of 1898, Rev. J. A. Frye, presiding elder of the district, officiating. The church was completed practically free of debt and deeded to the Evangelical Church. At that time the church had preaching services every two weeks.

Until 1932, Kasson was served with the Leelenau Circuit. From 1932 to 1939 it was a part of the Traverse City Charge.

In 1939, Kasson was joined with Solon as the Solon-Kasson Charge and was served by Rev. H. A. Brannan. In 1941 it was made a part of the Leelenau Charge.

The present church membership on the Leelenau Charge is 124 and the Sunday-school enrollment, 172.

According to conference records the following have served the charge as pastors since 1887: J. J. Marshall, 1887-88; W. D. Gamertsfelder, 1888-90; Supply, 1890-91; J. Borough, 1891-92; (the field appears to have been served with Traverse City between 1892-95); W. F. Vogel, 1892-95; J. G. Neuber, 1895-99; E. Rath, 1899-1902; B. Mohr, 1902-05; W. A. Shelly, 1905-07; C. F. Giese, 1907-10; S. Moeller, 1910-12; G. Heximer, 1912-15; G. Raduchel, 1915-19; C. A. Strait, 1919-20; C. B. Greenman, 1920-22; C. E. Meyers, 1922-24; S. Fracker, 1924-25; C. E. Koteskey, 1925-28; W. M. Palmer, 1928-31; R. C. Miller, 1931-32; C. B. Wilson, 1932-34; H. A. Brannan, 1934-39; H. F. Bailey, 1939.

MT. PLEASANT CIRCUIT

Mt. Pleasant Circuit is one of the most extensive circuits in the Michigan Conference at the present time. It extends from approximately seven miles northwest of Mt. Pleasant where a few members

of the old Union church, now closed, still live, to Breckenridge where lives the superintendent of the Bush Creek Sunday school, a distance of 35 miles. The Bethany and Bush Creek churches are 22 miles from the pastor's residence in Mt. Pleasant.

The Mt. Pleasant Circuit has three appointments, viz., Chippewa, Bethany and Bush Creek. Eleven members from the closed Union church still remain. At one time the Mt. Pleasant Circuit included Coleman and Elwell.

In 1896, during the pastorate of Rev. Warren Brown, the first three church buildings were erected, viz., Union, Chippewa and Bethany. The salary was small in those days and it is reported that on one occasion a member of the church took Rev. Brown some flour. Mrs. Brown expressed her thanks and informed the donor that if he had not brought the flour she could not have given him any dinner. The circuit now has 135 members. The Sunday-school enrollment is 131.

The appointments of this circuit have been connected at various times with St. Louis, Carson City and North Bradley. Since 1891 the field has been known continuously as Mt. Pleasant.

Under its various names the following ministers have served this circuit for the periods indicated: E. H. Hess, 1883-85; A. E. Bogen, 1885-86; J. C. Dietrich, 1886-88; J. A. Swenk, 1888-89; W. C. Swenk, 1889-90; A. E. Bogen, 1890-91; W. Brown, 1891-94; J. E. Holsaple, 1894-96; A. Frye, 1896-97; M. A. Oldt, 1897-99; J. F. Kirn, 1899-1902; S. C. Croff, 1902-05; D. J. Feather, 1905-09; J. J. Marshall, 1909-12; W. F. Kring, 1912-17; F. H. Bailey, 1917-19; W. F. Kring, 1919-20; E. F. Bailey, 1920-24; W. A. and Paul Shelly, 1924-25; W. A. Shelly, 1925-26; G. H. Simpson, 1926-29; G. Raduchel, 1929-33; L. E. Manore, 1933-38; W. D. Hayes, 1938.

Mt. Pleasant—Chippewa Appointment

The Chippewa congregation was organized in 1885 in the Taylor schoolhouse by the Olmsteads, Merilatts and Gilmores. Rev. A. E. Bogen was pastor and Rev. E. Weiss, presiding elder. J. K. Olmstead, Paul Merilatt, Jerry Horn, J. M. Gilmore and A. A. Kennedy were elected trustees. During the pastorate of Rev. J. A. Swenk, a camp meeting was held in the Armstrong Grove. For a period during the pastorate of Rev. J. C. Dietrich a Sunday school was held in the Merilatt schoolhouse. During this period, pastors traveled from Carson City to Coleman with horse and cart. It is reported that W. C. Swenk bought a cow in the community which he took to the home of his parents near Coleman. The road was only a log trail and Brother Swenk became lost, being compelled to spend the night in the woods. Innumerable mosquitoes kept him company. Having a tin cup with him he milked the cow and drank the milk, a very close relation between producer and consumer. The next morning he continued his journey and finally reached his father's home.

The Chippewa church was erected in 1894 under the leadership of Rev. Warren Brown. J. M. Gilmore, one of the first trustees, died in 1897, his funeral being the first held in the new church. The present trustees are P. E. Flory, Hugh Wilt, Delmar Watson, Earl Zingery and Rosco Philo. Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Gilmore and Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Kennedy are the only charter members remaining.

Mt. Pleasant—Bethany Appointment

The Bethany Evangelical church is located five miles northeast of St. Louis, Mich. Just before New Year's, 1882, an enthusiastic meeting of the patrons of the Meyers school district was held. They gathered under the leadership of Rev. F. Mueller, presiding elder of the North Michigan District of the conference. Following this helpful meeting, Rev. J. K. Pontius of Flint, made frequent trips to minister to the people. As there seemed to be considerable interest, the conference appointed E. H. Hess as pastor in 1883. Then followed the succession of ministers listed for the Mt. Pleasant Circuit.

During the pastorate of Rev. Warren Brown an eight weeks' meeting was held to which people came from far and near, though the muddy roads made travel difficult. A large number of converts resulted from this meeting and had much to do with the development of the work at Chippewa and Union appointments and the building of churches at these places. One convert, Mrs. Parkhouse, donated \$300.00 toward building the Bethany church. Other substantial contributors were Christopher Bucholtz, John Kehl, Wesley Deline, Sr., and Mr. Redman. The present building was erected in 1896 and was dedicated by Rev. F. Klump, presiding elder of the district.

Mt. Pleasant—Bush Creek

The Bush Creek appointment was taken up by Rev. E. F. Bailey in 1924. A splendid revival was held and the class organized in the schoolhouse, which is still used as a house of worship. A Union Sunday school, prayer meeting and Ladies' Aid are maintained by this class.

MT. PLEASANT FIRST CHURCH

At the 1938 session of the Michigan Conference, Dr. E. S. Faust suggested that a new mission be established as one feature of the Centennial celebration. Recognizing in the eastern part of the city of Mt. Pleasant a possible location for a new mission, Rev. W. D. Hayes, pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Circuit, made a survey of the locality. Convinced that a fine opening existed in this community, he reported to the conference at the 1939 session. The conference voted favorable consideration of the project and appropriated \$500.00 for the support

of an assistant pastor in the event that a mission was established. The pastor, Rev. W. D. Hayes, was given supervision of the project.

A site was purchased, a temporary meeting place secured and in the fall of 1939, Rev. Bernard Hearl was appointed as assistant pastor. October 13, 1939, the congregation was organized with 14 charter members.

January 1, 1940, work was begun on the basement. The Gulick Methodist Episcopal church was purchased and moved to the site on the corner of Michigan and Elizabeth Streets. The cornerstone was laid February 4, 1940, Rev. W. D. Hayes officiating. The structure, 30 by 58 feet, with full basement, was completed at a total cost of \$6,000.00, the cost of the lots being included in this amount. Donated labor reduced the cost materially. The church was dedicated May 12, 1940, by Bishop George E. Epp.

The church is served with the Bethel church, a rural church, constituting the Mt. Pleasant Mission. Rev. Orin M. Bailey is the present pastor, having been appointed in May, 1940. This new mission promises to develop into a fine congregation. It ministers to a fine group of students attending Central State Teachers' College. The mission has been adopted by the Young People's Leagues of the Conference as their Home Mission Project. With their aid, the present debt of \$4,900.00 should be rapidly reduced.

The present membership is nineteen. The Sunday-school enrollment is 32.

Mt. Pleasant—Bethel Appointment

The Bethel Congregation was organized about 1900, the meetings being held in the McFarren schoolhouse. At that time the appointment was called East Chippewa. The first record of a quarterly conference held at the Bethel appointment is dated March 24, 1900. This was during the pastorate of Rev. J. F. Kirn.

The Bethel church edifice was erected during the pastorate of Rev. J. J. Marshall in 1910. The quarterly conference record states that the "third quarterly conference was held in the new Bethel church." Rev. A. J. Mullett from the Ohio Conference moved into the community early in the history of the class and until his death in 1939 was a strong supporter of this church. A League, Sunday school and Ladies' Aid are also maintained. For the names of pastors who have served this church see information given in Mt. Pleasant Circuit sketch. There are 35 members of the church and 35 enrolled in the Sunday school.

NEW HAVEN

Preaching was begun in the New Haven community about 1860, by Rev. Christian Roehm, who lived on a farm in the community. Leav-

ing his family to care for the farm work, he traveled long distances on horseback preaching in various localities. Often he was gone for six weeks at a time.

Shortly after the preaching place was established at New Haven, services were held every two weeks. The meetings were held in four different homes, each taking their turn in opening their homes for the services. Later the services were centralized in the home of Godfrey Schautz, and still later were held in the schoolhouse, which is the wood house of the present school.

About the year 1875, a frame church building was erected which is still used as a house of worship. It has been kept in good condition. About 1930, during the pastorate of Rev. H. W. Link, the church building was raised and a full basement constructed, properly divided for Sunday-school classrooms. A furnace was installed at that time.

At the 1939 conference session, New Haven was separated from the Owosso Circuit and constituted New Haven Station. Owosso purchased New Haven's share in the parsonage at an agreed price, full payment to be made during 1940. A new parsonage is now under construction beside the New Haven church, and it is expected will be completed free from debt.

On two previous occasions, New Haven was separated from Owosso for brief periods. It appears that the present arrangement is likely to be permanent.

The following have served this field as pastor since 1864: J. Meck, 1864-66; J. M. Haug, 1866-68; C. Ude, 1868-69; C. Ude and C. Weisbrod 1869-70; C. Roehm and C. Weisbrod, 1870-71; C. Roehm and J. Long, 1871-72; J. M. Fuchs and L. Brumm, 1872-73; J. M. Fuchs and G. Haller, 1873-74; S. Henne, 1874-76; J. Orth and A. Frye, 1876-77; F. Schweitzer, 1877-79; L. Brumm, 1879-82; J. M. Fuchs, 1882-85; J. K. Pontius, 1885-88; E. H. Hess, 1888-90; L. Brumm, 1890-93; H. T. Strauch, 1893-96; J. Schmaus, 1896-98; W. F. Vogel, 1898-1900; W. F. Vogel and J. A. Halmhuber, 1900-01; W. Berge, 1901-05; A. R. Fisher, 1905-06; P. H. Pohly, 1906-10; C. C. Staffeld, 1910-13; A. Ostroth, 1913-17; A. H. Butzbach, 1917-19; C. Rodesiler, 1919-21; C. Trueschal, 1921-22; C. A. Sanders, 1922-23; E. Haines, 1923-24; E. Young, 1924-26; H. W. Link, 1926-31; F. W. Fall, 1931-39; J. H. Koteskey, 1939.

The present church membership is 83. The Sunday-school enrollment is 142.

OREGON

The Oregon society had its beginnings back in 1865 when Rev. C. Roehm traveled through the counties of St. Clair, Lapeer, Genesee, Tuscola and Shiwassee, preaching in private homes and schoolhouses. He found an opening and established an appointment among the German settlers in Oregon Township, Lapeer County. John Bohnsack, Sr., Fred Fick, Sr., Henry Ross, Sr., Lewis Ford, Christ Ross, Henry Bohnsack, Chas. Thom, Fred Ross, Wm. Thom, Sr., John

Thom and Charles Gerwolds, their wives and families being among the first to unite with the church. In 1873, under the pastorate of J. M. Haug, the society was organized and incorporated. In 1874, the present building was erected under the ministry of C. Ude. Twice has this church entertained the Annual Conference.

Some of those serving as pastor in earlier days are C. Roehm, E. Weiss, J. Meck, C. Ude, J. M. Haug, S. Henne and J. K. Pontius. Since 1884 the following have served: F. Klump, 1884-87; H. Voelker, 1887-88; W. A. Koehler, 1888-91; E. Rath, 1891-93; J. M. Bittner, 1893-94; W. Berge, 1894-97; J. F. Kirn, 1897-99; O. Y. Schneider, 1899-1900; N. Frye, 1900-04; F. Koehler, 1904-06; E. C. Braun, 1906-08; J. M. Bittner, 1908-11; A. J. Hettler, 1911-13; W. F. Vogel, 1913-16; H. Voelker, 1916-17; J. W. Le Van, 1917-19; L. E. Manore, 1919-22; W. H. Wagner, 1922-26; E. Young, 1926-28; W. A. Shelly, 1928-29; W. P. Peck, 1929-30; R. C. Saxton, 1930.

The present membership is 91. The Sunday-school enrollment is 79.

OWENDALE CIRCUIT

Owendale

In April, 1909, at the beginning of the conference year, Rev. A. D. Faupel began work in Owendale on behalf of the Evangelical Association, the first services being held in the Presbyterian church. July 11, 1909, an Evangelical Society was organized with the following charter members, Thomas Moody, Mrs. Moody, Wm. Kretzschmer, Mrs. Kretzschmer, E. David Bean, Oscar Weber, Mrs. Weber, Robert Weber, Ella Weber, John Sticken, Martha Sticken and Mrs. Samuel Voelker.

July 29, 1909, the class met in the Owendale Presbyterian church to incorporate and elect trustees. Later a church building was erected. During the pastorate of Rev. O. N. Braun, extensive improvements, with the enlargement of the church, were made at a cost of \$4,000.00. A debt of \$1,053.00 remains. A commodious parsonage is located beside the church. Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Parker entered the ministry from this congregation.

The present membership is 83 and the Sunday-school enrollment, 130.

The following pastors have served this field: J. M. Bittner, 1911-12; J. Schurman, 1912-16; L. Polmanteer, 1916-17; D. F. Binder, 1917-18; C. A. Sanders, 1918-22; W. F. Boettcher, 1922-26; W. H. Wagner, 1926-27; W. H. Fairchild, 1927-29; O. N. Braun, 1929-36; W. D. Hayes, 1936-38; S. P. Kirn, 1938 to October, 1940; W. M. Palmer, 1941.

Winsor

In 1889, Rev. J. M. Fuchs, pastor of Sebewaing and Kilmanagh, began conducting services in a dwelling house in the Winsor com-

munity. In 1891 a Union Sunday school was organized in the township hall. Later an Evangelical Sunday school was organized and in 1901, during the pastorate of Rev. A. A. Scheurer, the church building was erected on a site $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north and west of Owendale. The church was enlarged during the pastorate of Rev. W. F. Boettcher. The present church membership is 48 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 84.

Throughout its history this appointment has been served with other circuits, pastors having come at different times from Sebewaing, Kilmanagh, Pigeon, Elkton, Owendale, Cass City, etc.

The following have served as pastors: J. M. Fuchs, G. J. Kirn, W. Berge, B. F. Wade, H. C. Fuerstenau, J. F. Staebler, N. Frye, F. Klump, G. Heximer, J. Schurman, C. A. Sanders, D. F. Binder, L. Polmanteer, W. F. Boettcher, W. H. Wagner, W. H. Fairchild, O. N. Braun, W. D. Hayes, S. P. Kirn, and W. N. Palmer.

OWOSSO

The work of the First Evangelical church at Owosso began under the labors of Rev. C. Roehm and Rev. Henne in 1855. Services were first held in the sitting room of a hotel. Later a hall was rented in which our people worshiped for some time. The first church was built in 1866 after the fathers of the church had returned from the Civil War. This small frame church was built on the present site and used until 1905 when the present brick edifice was erected, with much sacrifice on the part of the members, during the pastorate of A. R. Fischer. The parsonage was built during the pastorate of Rev. P. H. Pohly.

The Owosso Circuit for many years consisted of four appointments, Owosso, Bennington, Chesaning, and New Haven. Bennington appointment was discontinued some years ago, some of the members uniting with the Owosso church. In 1901 Chesaning was detached from the circuit and between the years of 1923 and 1926 New Haven was served as a separate mission. In 1926, New Haven was re-attached to Owosso. In 1939, New Haven was again detached, Owosso now being served alone.

The first Young People's Missionary Circle in the Michigan Conference was organized at Owosso by Mrs. Jane Finch in 1911. The Owosso Circuit has given a goodly number of her sons to the gospel ministry, the following being among the number: F. Klump, S. Salsbery, J. F. Kirn, John Kirn, G. J. Kirn, J. J. Schuknecht, H. Schuknecht, John Miller, W. Y. Pohly, L. H. Hayes, Delbert Rose.

The following have served the field as pastor since 1864: J. Meck, 1864-66; J. M. Haug, 1866-68; C. Ude, 1868-69; C. Ude and C. Weisbrod, 1869-70; C. Roehm and C. Weisbrod, 1870-71; C. Roehm and J. Long, 1871-72; J. M. Fuchs and L. Brumm, 1872-73; J. M. Fuchs and G. Haller, 1873-74; S.

Henne, 1874-76; J. Orth and A. Frye, 1876-77; F. Schweitzer, 1877-79; L. Brumm, 1879-82; J. M. Fuchs, 1882-85; J. K. Pontius, 1885-88; E. H. Hess, 1888-90; L. Brumm, 1890-93; H. T. Strauch, 1893-96; J. Schmaus, 1896-98; W. F. Vogel, 1898-1900; W. F. Vogel and J. A. Halmhuber, 1900-01; W. Berge, 1901-05; A. R. Fischer, 1905-06; P. H. Pohly, 1906-10; C. C. Staffeld, 1910-13; A. Ostroth, 1913-17; A. H. Butzbach, 1917-19; C. Rodesiler, 1919-22; C. A. Sanders, 1922-25; H. W. Link, 1925-31; F. W. Fall, 1931-39; E. F. Bailey, 1939.

The present membership is 255. The Sunday-school enrollment is 346.

PETOSKEY

The work in Petoskey was begun in the year of 1878 by Rev. W. F. Zander who was sent by the conference as a missionary to the German settlers in this community. There were many obstacles to the work and the results at first were meager. Meetings were held in the home of Brother Heintz, the only Evangelical family in the community. During the second year there were a goodly number of converts most of whom united with the Evangelical Church.

When Rev. H. Voelker was sent to the field in 1880 he preached first in a schoolhouse on Howard Street. Since this place was not altogether satisfactory a hall was rented for \$3.00 per month, Mr. Heintz often paying the amount out of his own pocket. A class was organized with seven members.

When Rev. W. A. Koehler came to the field in 1883 the outlook was not promising. But in spite of a small society and a discouraging financial outlook, the erection of a church edifice was undertaken. Brother Voelker had collected \$112.00 toward a building during his pastorate which served as a beginning. The church was erected on the corner of Howard and Grove Streets, and was dedicated by Bishop Thomas Bowman, December 18, 1883. Immediately after the dedication, a revival was held and many converted who became devoted workers in the church.

Having felt the need for a more commodious building for some years, the congregation launched a building project in 1929 under the leadership of Rev. G. C. Murbach. A splendid new edifice was erected on State Street at a cost of approximately \$30,000.00.

From Petoskey the work was extended into surrounding communities. During the pastorate of Rev. Geo. Johnson, the Springvale church was built and dedicated July 18, 1886, by Rev. A. J. Gramley. At one time there was a large congregation at this place, but later the work weakened and was abandoned. The work at Epsilon is reported separately. A church was built in Joy Valley and a class organized at Clarion, but in later years both were abandoned. About 1919 the Conway Presbyterian church was purchased and work

maintained there for several years. Later the building was sold back to the Presbyterians and our work discontinued.

The following have served as pastor for the periods indicated: W. F. Zander, 1878-80; H. Voelker, 1880-82; W. F. Binder, 1882-83; W. A. Koehler, 1883-85; Geo. Johnson, 1885-88; J. M. Bittner, 1888-89; J. A. Swenk, 1889-91; E. M. Renner, 1891-92; W. F. Kring, 1892-95; W. Brown, 1895-99; W. B. Oldt, 1899-1903; F. H. Bayles, 1903-06; F. E. Armstrong, 1906-11; E. A. Perone, 1911-15; C. W. Lyman, 1915-21; O. Y. Schneider, 1921-24; G. C. Murbach, 1924-31; A. P. Fisher, 1931-33; E. F. Bailey, 1933-39; F. W. Fall, 1939.

The present membership is 107. The Sunday-school enrollment is 153.

PETOSKEY

Epsilon Appointment

The Epsilon Society was born and cradled in a small log schoolhouse. In May, 1885, at the request of three settlers (Stephen Moser, William E. Blanchard, and Ezra Schlappi), Rev. George Johnson, pastor of the Evangelical church at Petoskey, took up an appointment in the schoolhouse at Epsilon. In August, a splendid revival was held resulting in 24 conversions. A class was organized at once with 29 members. For a number of years they continued worshipping in the schoolhouse, which was always crowded. A rousing tabernacle meeting conducted by Warren and George Brown resulted in a spiritual quickening and increased membership. Under the ministry of Warren Brown, the present church edifice was erected, being dedicated in 1898 by Rev. J. A. Frye, presiding elder. In 1918 under the ministry of W. H. Fairchild, the parsonage and barn were erected at a cost of \$2,500.00.

Preceding 1917 the pastors that served at Petoskey served Epsilon. The following have served since 1917: W. H. Fairchild, 1917-22; F. F. Maneval, 1922-27; Wayne Palmer, 1927-28; G. C. Murbach, 1928-31; A. P. Fisher, 1931-33; E. F. Bailey, 1933-39; F. W. Fall, 1939.

The church is now a part of the Petoskey Circuit. The church membership is 43 and the Sunday-school enrollment, 58.

REED CITY

The first Evangelical Society was organized in the vicinity of Reed City in the year of 1862 when Henry Bittner, John Pfeffer, Philip Nagel and John H. Gerhardt moved from Canada and settled in Richmond Township. The first services were held in the homes and consisted of prayer and praise. The following year several additional families moved into the community augmenting the numbers.

Henry Bittner, who is said to have been a local preacher, was chosen as leader of the group and served in that capacity for several

years. In 1865, Rev. J. M. Fuchs and one year later Rev. M. Speck came to visit this Evangelical group. In 1867, Rev. Carl Deike was sent by the Michigan Conference as the first pastor under appointment. In 1869, a log church was built on the Adam Ruppert farm, two miles south and one-half mile east of Reed City. From this center other church organizations were formed in Reed City, Hersey, Pinora, Maple Hill, Evart and LeRoy.

The work was established in Reed City in the summer of 1879. From Rev. H. I. Bittner, of the Oregon-Washington Conference, we learned that his father paid for the first Sunday-school literature used in the Reed City Sunday school. Rev. Bittner also informed us that under his father's instructions he engaged the Baptist church for the first Sunday-school service. The first service was held in the Baptist church at 3 P. M., on the afternoon of June 1, 1879, 22 persons being in attendance. Rev. W. Berge was pastor of the circuit at that time and coöperated in the project. A class of 32 members was organized a short time later.

In 1881 a frame church, 22 x 32 feet, was erected at a cost of \$375.00. This building is now a part of the present parsonage. It was dedicated for Divine worship May 9, 1881. The society grew rapidly and the church was soon inadequate. Under the ministry of Rev. E. Weiss, the present church structure was begun in 1884 and was dedicated July 5, 1885 by Bishop R. Dubs. In 1890 the church was remodeled, a 25 foot extension and a 70 foot tower being added. In 1915 a gallery was added. In 1940 the church was again remodeled and improved at a cost of \$2,900.00.

From this congregation Peter Bittner, Henry Bittner, Joseph Gingrich, A. E. Bogen, and Henry I. Voelker have entered the Gospel ministry. The congregation entertained the Annual Conference in the years of 1886, 1907 and 1941.

In the earlier years Reed City was a part of a circuit, first of Osceola Mission, later of Hersey Circuit.

Since the beginning of the work in the vicinity the following have served, for the periods indicated, as pastor: C. Deike, 1867-68; John Orth, 1868-70; S. Henne, 1870-72; C. Roehm, 1872-73; L. Brumm, 1873-76; D. W. Schaefer, 1876-77; F. F. Meyer, 1877-79; W. Berge, 1879-82; E. Weiss, 1882-86; F. Mueller, 1886-87; L. Brumm, 1887-90; H. Schneider, 1890-91; S. Henne, 1891-93; L. Brumm, 1893-95; A. Halmhuber, 1895-99; J. Riebel, 1899-1903; H. Voelker, 1903-05; E. Rath, 1905-09; H. Schuknecht, 1909-11; G. Knechtel, 1911-16; J. Riebel, 1916-19; J. Schurman, 1919-22; D. F. Binder, 1922-24; J. S. Deabler, 1924-29; B. Mohr, 1929-36; O. N. Braun, 1936.

The present membership is 236. The Sunday-school enrollment, 243.

PIGEON

The beginning of the Salem Evangelical church (Pigeon) dates back to the year of 1885, when Rev. D. W. Schaefer established a preaching place in the home of Mr. Louis Thiel. A Sunday school was organized and in 1886, Rev. G. J. Kirn, served the field as junior preacher, associated with Rev. Peter Alles. The Sunday school grew and larger quarters were found in the Turner schoolhouse. Rev. W. F. Vogel came as the next pastor and under his labors a class with 20 charter members was organized. At this time the field was made a part of the Elkton Circuit.

The first church building was erected at Berne, one mile north of Pigeon, in 1891. W. A. Bulgrin, B. F. Wade and W. Berge served as pastors in the order indicated. During Brother Berge's pastorate, the church was moved from Berne to Pigeon.

In 1902 Pigeon was detached from the Elkton Circuit and with Winsor constituted Pigeon Mission. Rev. F. Klump was appointed pastor of the new mission. Since that time the following have served as pastor: F. Klump, 1902-04; N. Frye, 1904-07; G. Heximer, 1907-08; C. Rodesiler, 1908-11; A. A. Scheurer, 1911-15; W. H. Wagner appointed but served only a brief period after 1915 conference; C. Rodesiler, 1915-19; D. F. Binder, 1919-22; E. C. Braun, 1922-26; F. W. Fall, 1926-31; G. C. Murbach, 1931-36; S. Young, 1936.

During the pastorate of Rev. N. Frye, the parsonage was built. During the first pastorate of Rev. C. Rodesiler, a fine new brick church was built in 1909. Early in the morning of December 24, 1934, the church building was burned to the ground, the cause of the fire as yet undetermined. With fine courage the congregation rallied and during the following year erected a beautiful fireproof brick church which was dedicated September 8, 1935.

In 1913, Winsor was detached and Pigeon was made a station, continuing in that relation since that time. The present membership is 167 and the enrollment in the Sunday school is 222. The outlook for this church is encouraging.

RIVERTON CIRCUIT

Mr. Jacob B. Houk, a member of the Evangelical Association at West Salem, Ohio, moved to Summit, Mason County. Finding deplorable moral and religious conditions in that community, he requested the Michigan Conference to send a missionary to Mason County. At its annual session in 1872, the conference granted this request and sent Rev. S. Heiningner as the first missionary. The missionary and his family arrived May 1, 1872, and were heartily welcomed by Brother Houk. May 5, 1872, the Summit appointment was taken up. May 12th he began to preach at Riverton and Ludington.

During the year, appointments were taken up at Section 12, Clay Banks, Section 36 and in March, 1873, at Amber. The first appointment in Ludington was in German. This was dropped and an English appointment taken up in the Spring of 1873.

Strong opposition from unexpected sources developed. Failure was predicted, but the missionary and a few earnest Christians banded themselves together for prayer. In the Fall of 1872, revivals were held at Summit with 46 conversions and 38 accessions and at Riverton with 35 conversions and 22 accessions. Sunday schools were organized at Summit and Riverton. The first quarterly conference of Mason Mission was held January 18, 1873, by J. Meck, presiding elder.

During the first year a parsonage was begun, being finished in 1873. The West Riverton (Zion) church was built in 1879. That year the circuit was named Ludington Mission. The Summit (Grace) church was built in 1883. In 1889 a new barn was built on the parsonage lot. The old parsonage was razed and a new brick parsonage erected in 1909. The St. Paul church was erected in 1892. These three churches now form the circuit.

E. V. French and W. H. Wagner were the first class leaders on this charge.

Riverton Circuit has experienced some mighty revivals. Beginning with two successful revivals under Brother Heininger, other revivals are reported as follows: A meeting under Peter Scheurer reporting nearly 200 conversions and 130 accessions. Successful meetings under A. Ostroth and E. Rath with more than 100 conversions in each meeting are reported.

The following have served this field as pastors: S. Heininger, 1872-73; L. Kemmerling, 1873-74; E. B. Miller, 1874-76; J. Schmaus, 1876-77; J. Paulin, 1877-79; D. P. Rumberger, 1879-82; A. A. Scheurer, 1882-84; W. H. Wagner, 1884-86; A. J. Gramley, 1886-87; A. Ostroth, 1887-90; D. P. Rumberger, 1890-91; J. A. Swenk, 1891-93; P. Scheurer, 1893-95; H. Spitler, 1895-98; J. J. Marshall, 1898-1900; F. J. Feather, 1900-02; E. Rath, 1902-05; F. H. Bailey, 1905-07; W. A. Shelly, 1907-09; A. Ostroth, 1909-13; B. Mohr, 1913-16; S. Moeller, 1916-18; B. E. Belknap, 1918-21; H. A. Gunyan, 1921-22; George Hall, 1922-23; C. F. Smith, 1923-24; O. Y. Schneider, 1924-27; F. F. Maneval, 1927-30; S. Young, 1930-31; E. F. Bailey, 1931-33; A. P. Fisher, 1933-35; T. A. Moyer, 1935-37; L. A. Ruegsegger, 1937.

The society entertained the conference in 1909. The present membership is 104. The Sunday-school enrollment is 163.

SAGINAW

Rev. M. Hoehn as pastor of the St. Joseph Mission, reports that he visited the "new city of Saginaw" as the first Evangelical missionary in 1851. Because of an already extended circuit, he was unable to establish a regular preaching place in Saginaw at that time.

At the first conference session in 1865, Saginaw was taken up as a mission. Apparently the effort to establish work in Saginaw in 1865 was not successful for again in 1873 the conference ordered that a mission be established in Saginaw and surrounding country. At an uncertain date a class was organized on the East Side. Later a building was erected and a congregation was established on the West Side, near Court Street. May 6, 1878, the church was organized as the Zion church of the Evangelical Association, and a constitution adopted. The following names appear as organizers: D. D. Haller, V. Gamin, C. Ginther, A. Ginther, C. C. Staffeld, J. A. Stengel, A. Jahrmark, John Headell, and Jacob Maier. The work was carried on in the German language until 1910 when the church was sold and a new work organized at the present site.

In 1873 Saginaw appears as an appointment to be supplied and a missionary appropriation of \$400.00 was made for salary. The following served this church as pastor: J. M. Fuchs, 1874-76; J. M. Fuchs and F. Klump, 1876-77; C. C. Staffeld, 1877-80; W. F. Zander, 1880-81; H. Schneider, 1881-82; N. Wunderlich, 1882-85; D. Heininger, 1885-86; L. V. Soldan, 1886-89; C. C. Weber, 1889-90; E. Weiss, 1890-91; C. Ude, 1891-93; N. Wunderlich, 1893-95; W. Vogel, 1895-98; J. Hommel, 1898-1902; F. W. Dill, 1902-04; W. Bulgrin, 1904-05; J. A. Schweitzer, 1905-08; H. Voelker, 1908-10.

The Present Saginaw Church

Prior to 1910, a substantial community developed in the South Michigan Avenue locality. A group of citizens, desiring a church in the community, organized the Michigan Avenue Mission Club. Contacts by Rev. H. Voelker with the Mission Club resulted in uniting a few members from the Zion church with the Mission Club to form a new congregation. A new church was erected and dedicated September 24, 1911, and the new merged congregation organized October 1, 1911. A fine parsonage was also erected. The development of the church in this locality has been encouraging.

The following have served as pastors of this congregation: H. I. Voelker, 1910-12; C. F. Gackler, 1912-16; G. H. Kellermann, 1916-19; L. H. Hayes, 1919-September, 1920; L. Polmanteer, September, 1920-28; A. R. Kuehn, 1928-32; W. D. Hayes, 1932-36; H. Stressman, 1936.

The present church membership is 300. The Sunday-school enrollment, 322.

Saginaw—Lawndale

Work at Lawndale is believed to have been established about 1880 by Rev. Henry Schneider. He was succeeded by Rev. F. Klump. In 1887 this appointment, then known as Kochville, was joined with the Brooks appointment from the Bay City charge to form Kochville Mission. Services were first held in a schoolhouse. Later the present

church building was erected. The present church membership is 37 and the Sunday-school enrollment, 34.

SEBEWAING

In response to an invitation from Christian Finkbeiner, an Evangelical who had moved to Sebewaing from Canada, Rev. C. Dieke came in 1864 and began the work of the Evangelical Association in this place. He served for two years, coming from Genesee County. In 1866, Sebewaing was made a mission with S. Henne appointed as missionary. The membership was 45. In 1868, a new church was built at Bradie's Corners, three miles east of Sebewaing.

In 1873, a small frame, 25 x 35 feet, church was built in Sebewaing. Regular preaching services were held and a Sunday school organized. In 1894, a new site, ample for both church and parsonage, was purchased. A new frame church building 35 x 60 feet, with gallery at the rear, vestibule on side, and classroom under gallery, was built. This sufficed until 1908 when a two-story wing, 18 x 22 feet with classrooms above and below was erected. In 1916 a basement including kitchen, furnace room with steam furnace, assembly room for prayer meetings, Sunday school and social purposes, was constructed at a cost of \$1,242.00. Other improvements have been made at various times.

In 1925, the parsonage was extensively remodeled and fully equipped with modern conveniences at a cost of \$1,753.00. The cost of these improvements was borne largely by the Ladies' Aid.

In 1903, Sebewaing was separated from other appointments and made a mission. In 1906, it became a station. Revivals of religion have interspersed the history of this society. Some of the most gracious revivals were experienced during the pastorates of E. Weiss, W. Riemke, Samuel Heininger, D. W. Schaefer, John Nicolai, Wm. Berge, J. M. Bittner, George Koehler, J. M. Nyce and others. The Brethren E. C. Braun, S. Moeller, and O. N. Braun entered the ministry from this church. Sebewaing has had the honor of entertaining conference four times, once in conjunction with the Kilmanagh Society.

The following pastors have served this field: C. Dieke, 1864-66; S. Henne, 1866-68; E. Weiss, 1868-70; S. Heininger, 1870-71; S. Heininger and F. Dietrich, 1871-72; W. Riemke and C. Pfeifle (W. Berge seems to have served for Pfeifle after the first few weeks), 1872-74; W. Riemke, 1874-75; E. H. Hess, 1875-77; J. Miller, 1877-78; John Nicolai, 1878-81; H. Schuknecht, 1881-83; J. Orth, 1883-84; D. W. Schaefer, 1884-86; P. Alles, 1886-89; J. M. Fuchs, 1889-91; W. Berge, 1891-94; J. M. Bittner, 1894-96; G. J. Kirn, 1896-98; H. C. Fuerstenau, 1898-1900; A. A. Scheurer, 1900-03; George Koehler, 1903-06; J. M. Nyce, 1906-10; C. F. Giese, 1910-15; W. C. Swenk,

1915-16; J. A. Schweitzer, 1916-17; C. G. Kaatz, 1917-21; C. W. Lyman, 1921-25; F. L. Pohly, 1925-31; H. W. Link, 1931-36; H. C. Heise, 1936-.

The present membership of this church is 166. The church is fully organized with efficient auxiliaries. The Sunday-school enrollment is 275.

SCOTTVILLE

In 1872, Mr. Jacob Houk, a member of the Evangelical church of West Salem, Ohio, moved to Summit, Mason County, Michigan. Finding that there were no religious services in the community he sent a request to the Michigan Conference asking that a missionary be sent to Mason County. In response to this request the conference, in April, 1872, sent Rev. S. Heininger. He organized missions in Summit, Clay Banks, Ludington and Riverton.

In March, 1873, he took up an appointment at Amber, a short distance west of Scottville. From this beginning, work was established in Scottville by Rev. J. J. Marshall in 1885. The first Sunday evening services were held in the Reader Bro's. V. Welsh Hall.

During the pastorate of Rev. Noah Frye, 1886-88, the first Evangelical church in Scottville was built on East State Street. In this church the following ministers served:

Rev. W. L. Shirey 1888 (for about six months. He died of typhoid fever.) For a few months until January 1, 1889, the field was served by Rev. P. Alles, who came from Reed City for week ends. Beginning with January 1st, J. M. Nyce finished the conference year. E. B. Hubbell, 1889-90; S. B. Hibbard, 1890-91; A. Russel, 1891-92; E. M. Renner, 1892-94; A. M. Haddix, 1894-95; W. F. Kring, 1895-. During this year the church was sold to the Baptists and the Evangelical church in Scottville was disbanded.

During the year of 1901, Rev. D. P. Rumberger started prayer meetings in his home. The meetings were well attended, a deep interest was in evidence and in a short time a class of 25 members was organized. Plans for a new church were made and at its session in 1902, the conference voted to return \$932.00, proceeds from the sale of the former church building, to the congregation for the new building project. Subscriptions and cash contributions totalling \$360.00 were secured and a lot on the corner of James and Main Street purchased. The erection of the building was supervised by D. P. Rumberger. John Looker was the first class leader. The church was dedicated in 1902, Bishop Thomas Bowman officiating. The parsonage was built in 1904. Through the efforts of Rev. E. F. Rhoades, pastor, extensive repairs and improvements were made in 1938.

The following ministers have served the field for the periods indicated: B. F. Galloway, 1903-04; C. R. Richards, 1904-06; C. H. Howe, 1906-10;

D. J. Feather, 1910-12; H. A. Decker, 1912-14; D. F. Binder, 1914 (six months); H. Stressman, 1914 (last half of conference year); E. Willard, 1915-16; W. D. Hayes, 1916-18; W. Gumser, 1918-20; G. G. Heximer, 1920-22; W. H. Fairchild, 1922-24; T. A. Moyer, 1924-26; R. J. Lautner, 1926-28; Glen Ball, 1928-33; H. A. Ryan, 1933-36; B. Mohr, 1936-38; E. F. Rhoades, 1938-.

E. L. Marsh and Philip Thomas entered the ministry from this church. The present church membership is 53. The Sunday school enrollment, 90.

SNOVER

Moore Appointment

In the year of 1878, by invitation of a few persons living in the community, Rev. Wm. Binder, pastor of Burnside Mission, came to Moore Township, Sanilac County, and preached in the Minard school-house. In 1879, the Mooretown Society was organized with nine charter members. The names are as follows: William Bulgrin, Wilhelmina Bulgrin, William Tank, Augusta Tank, Carl Miller, Augusta Miller, John Wendorf, William Wendorf, and Mother Wendorf. Wm. Bulgrin, later a minister in the Michigan Conference, was the first class leader and William Tank the first Sunday-school superintendent. A splendid revival was held in 1880 resulting in the conversion of 15 persons all of whom united with the church. The work progressed so well that during the pastorate of Rev. C. Krueger, the church and parsonage were built. The cornerstone of the church was laid in 1886. The church was dedicated March 24, 1887. W. A. Bulgrin, W. F. Boettcher and G. Raduchel entered the ministry from this church.

The following have served as pastor on this charge: Wm. Binder, 1878-80; N. Wunderlich, 1880-82; F. E. Walter, 1882-84; C. Krueger, 1884-88; E. Rath, 1888-91; C. A. Bremer, 1891 (three months); E. H. Hess, 1891-92; F. E. Walter, 1892-95; G. Heximer, 1895-98; F. H. Weber, 1898-1900; F. E. Walter, 1900-04; O. Y. Schneider, 1904-06; L. V. Soldan, 1906-07; J. Hommel, 1907-10; J. Schmaus, 1910-12; J. G. Neuber, 1912-14; J. F. Kirn, 1914-19; John Kirn, 1919-23; F. H. Bailey, 1923-25; W. D. Hayes, 1925-28; O. P. Schleicher, 1928-34; C. E. Koteskey, 1934-39; M. C. Beers, 1939-.

The present membership is 61. The Sunday-school enrollment is 105.

Snover Appointment

About 1913, Rev. J. G. Neuber took up an appointment in Snover. His successor, Rev. J. F. Kirn, was successful in building a beautiful church. The cost in money was \$6,000.00, a large amount of labor being donated. The building has a present value of about \$15,000.00.

In 1925, a parsonage was bought in Snover for the circuit at a cost of \$2,900.00. It is an eight-room house with basement, furnace and

electric lights. Attached to the property are two additional lots, a double garage and henhouse.

The present membership is 99. The Sunday-school enrollment is 191.

TRAVERSE CITY

About the year of 1883, a small group of Evangelical folk felt the need for an Evangelical church in Traverse City. Under the direction of Rev. J. Schmaus, who was pastor at Keswick, the first services held in Traverse City under the auspices of the Evangelical Church were held in the basement of the Baptist church. Later services were conducted in the high school building.

Interest grew and on September 9, 1884, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Hannah donated the present site for the church building. In 1884, during the pastorate of Rev. A. Frye, the main part of the parsonage was erected and for some time, apparently for several years, services were held in one room in the parsonage.

About ten years later, Rev. W. F. Vogel being pastor, the church edifice was erected. The dedication occurred in the month of January, 1894, Bishop Thomas Bowman officiating. Numerous improvements were made during the years, chief of which were made during the pastorate of Rev. S. Moeller when basements were constructed under both church and parsonage, added classrooms provided and other important improvements made.

January 25 to 29, 1939, the congregation celebrated its forty-fifth anniversary since the erection of the church. Through a special finance drive and a special contribution of more than \$150.00 by Mrs. R. Donner, the remaining debt was wiped out.

The present church membership is 179 and the enrollment in the Sunday school, 177. Other auxiliaries are prosperous.

The following have served as pastor for the periods indicated: J. Schmaus, 1883-84; A. Frye, 1884-85; L. V. Soldan, 1885-86; A. Bogen, 1886-89; J. M. Bittner, 1889-92; W. F. Vogel, 1892-95; H. C. Fuernstenau, 1895-97; S. Salsbery, 1897-1901; D. O. Ruth, 1901-04; R. N. Holsaple, 1904-07; C. C. Gibson, 1907-09; W. A. Shelly, 1909-12; P. H. Pohly, 1912-15; E. A. Perone, 1915-17; E. C. Braun, 1917-22; M. H. Willard, 1922-24; F. L. Pohly, 1924-25; S. Moeller, 1925-29; J. S. Deabler, 1929-32; R. J. Lautner, 1932-40; C. A. Sanders, 1940-.

CHURCHES OF THE DETROIT DISTRICT

ANN ARBOR

One of the first appointments of the Evangelical Church in Michigan was near Ann Arbor. A congregation was organized and continued for many years. Eventually the work was abandoned.

The present Ann Arbor congregation is the continuation of the "Northside Union Church Service Association of Ann Arbor" which was organized in 1896. Until 1899 the services were held in an old

chapel on Wall Street. Between 1899 and 1909, the basement of the present structure was used as a place of worship. In 1909 the super-structure was completed and dedicated free of debt.

For 13 years, from 1896 to 1909, Rev. Harry Bell served as pastor. Following his resignation as pastor in 1909 the church was served by men from several denominations.

In 1925, Rev. A. E. Kurth was appointed pastor of the Lima Center Charge with the understanding that an attempt would be made to establish work in Ann Arbor. Under direction of the presiding elder, Rev. Kurth secured the use of Lane Hall and for a number of months conducted services in the hall. The outlook was not encouraging. In the fall of 1925, Rev. Kurth was invited to preach in the Northside Union church. There was a fine response to his ministry and he was invited to become their pastor and organize an Evangelical congregation. At the 1926 session of the conference action was taken to lease the church and organize an Evangelical congregation. The five-year lease has been renewed twice since that time. In 1931, the Lima Center church was closed and the Ann Arbor church has been served alone.

In 1928 a fine parsonage was built by the association and made available for use by Evangelical pastors.

The work has prospered over the years. The present church membership is 96. The Sunday-school enrollment is 125.

The following have served as pastor since organization as an Evangelical Church: A. E. Kurth, 1925-31; F. W. Kirn, 1931-32; A. A. Wienert, 1932-36; M. R. Jewell, 1936-41; J. Schurman, 1941-.

BLISSFIELD

The work of the Evangelical Church in and around Blissfield began some time before the organization of the Michigan Conference in 1865. It is reported that the work began in Blissfield about 1861 under the ministry of Rev. C. Munk. The first church, known as the Beagle church, located about one mile west of Blissfield, was erected in 1861 and was used until 1891 when the first unit of the present church was erected. The work in Blissfield was originally part of the Adrian Circuit. In 1867, the city of Adrian was taken up as a mission and the name of the circuit, including the appointments of Blissfield, Riga, Ogden and Crain, was changed to Blissfield. For many years, Blissfield has been served separately as a station.

The first unit of the present building was built in 1891 under the ministry of H. Voelker, an annex was added in 1908 and in 1928 the church was rebuilt and greatly enlarged under the ministry of Rev. J. W. Hill.

Blissfield had the honor of entertaining the first session of the

Michigan Conference in 1865. The Riga appointment entertained the conference in 1877 and Blissfield again in 1910. The Centennial Session of the conference met in Blissfield in 1939.

The following have served this church as pastor: C. Munk, Erb, H. D. McBride, 1865-66; H. D. McBride and L. Engel, 1866-67; J. Paulin and R. Spatz, 1867-69; R. Spatz, 1869-70; C. Dieke, 1870-72; C. Ude, 1872-74; F. Zeller, 1874-76; S. Henne, 1876-79; D. W. Schaefer, 1879-82; J. Young, 1882-85; J. J. Bernhart and N. Frye, 1885-86; J. Snyder, 1886-87; J. Miller, 1887-90; H. Voelker, 1890-93; S. Salsbery, 1893-95; L. Brumm, 1895-96; L. Brumm and F. H. Baylis, 1896-97; A. Frye, 1897-98; A. Frye and W. Stipe, 1898-99; A. Frye, 1899-1900; J. M. Nyce, 1900-03; A. A. Scheurer, 1903-07; J. Riebel, 1907-09; H. A. Decker, 1909-12; E. L. Marsh, 1912-17; H. A. Frye, 1917-22; J. W. Richards, 1922-26; J. W. Hill, 1926-33; S. Moeller, 1933-34; L. S. Sheifele, 1934-41; H. W. Link, 1941-.

The present membership is 240. The Sunday-school enrollment is 421.

CAPAC

The work of the Evangelical Church at Capac began in 1859 when Rev. C. Tramer, then pastor at Detroit, came to this community, gathered several Evangelical families together and organized a class. After making four visits to the community he found that because of distance, the investment of time and money was too great. He then made arrangements for Rev. C. Roehm, then pastor at Oregon, to serve the work until the spring of 1861.

In May, 1861, the Ohio Conference took up Capac as a mission appointing Rev. C. Roehm as pastor. He served until 1862. During this year the first church was built. It was dedicated by Rev. D. Strohman, presiding elder. In 1868 the mission had six appointments, Capac, Romeo, Lenox, Burnside, and two appointments in Greenwood Township. In 1892, the present brick veneer church was built. The building was begun by Rev. F. Walters, completed under the ministry of Rev. A. Halmhuber, and dedicated by Bishop William Horn.

The following have served as pastors: C. Dieke, 1862-64; S. Henne, 1864-66; C. Roehm, 1866-68; J. M. Fuchs and L. Engel (Engel stayed but a short time and W. Riemke took his place), 1868-69; J. M. Fuchs, 1869-70; R. Spatz and C. Pfeiffer, 1870-71; R. Spatz and C. Weisbrod, 1871-72; John Orth, 1872-74; F. Dietrick, 1874-76; no appointment recorded for 1876; J. K. Pontius, 1877-79; S. Henne, 1879-81; J. Miller, 1881-83; C. Ude, 1883-86; D. W. Schaefer, 1886-89; F. E. Walter, 1889-92; A. Halmhuber, 1892-95; F. W. Dill, 1895-97; L. Brumm, 1897-1901; H. Voelker, 1901-03; W. Vogel, 1903-06; A. Halmhuber, 1906-October, 1907; W. A. Koehler, October, 1907-08; A. A. Scheurer, 1908-11; C. Rodesiler, 1911-14; J. Riebel, 1914-16; W. Wagner, 1916-17; A. R. Fisher, 1917-21; B. Mohr, 1921-23; S. Moeller, 1923-25; A. R. Kuehn, 1925-28; H. C. Heise, 1928-32; J. S. Deabler, 1932-36; J. Schurman, 1936-41; W. T. Bandeen, 1941-.

The present membership of the church is 165. The church is fully organized with Sunday school, E. L. C. E., W. M. S., etc.

The Sunday-school enrollment is 217.

CARLETON

Carleton Appointment

The first services held by the Evangelical Church in Carleton were held in a small room on the second floor of a hotel. The Carleton Society was organized July 7, 1882, by Rev. J. W. Loose, who served as the first pastor. The officers of the church at time of organization were C. Schweitzer, M. Chamberlain, Enoch Bangs, Mrs. Penock, William Gulick, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Crane and John Carter. Shortly after the organization of the society, a boarding house which was connected with a saloon was bought and remodeled into a church. This building was used for worship until 1924 when the old church was sold and a new church edifice erected on the same site. In 1918, a fine new parsonage was erected giving this congregation a very satisfactory property for the promotion of the kingdom task.

Carleton appears in the conference records as a pastoral charge in 1902. Since that time the following have served the field: J. S. Deabler, 1902-03; C. J. Gurney, 1903-05; H. A. Frye, 1905-06; H. A. Drake, 1906-08; W. Brown, 1908-10; F. Yearnd, 1910-14; G. C. Murbach, 1914-16; W. H. Wagner, 1916-18; P. H. Pohly, 1918-21; S. Young, 1921-23; C. B. Greenman, 1923-26; C. A. Sanders, 1926-28; E. Pritchard, 1928-29; A. A. Weinert, 1929-32; W. Crothers, 1932-36; E. C. Braun, 1936 (to August); M. F. Lempke, August, 1936-41; A. D. Burch, 1941-.

There are at present 43 members in this society. The Sunday-school enrollment is 182.

Port Creek Appointment

The Evangelical Church had its beginnings in Michigan in Ash Township, Monroe County. Rev. Solomon Altimos, a minister of the East Pennsylvania Conference, came to Michigan in 1838, settling about one mile from the present Port Creek church. He immediately began holding prayer meetings and preaching in the community. Many open doors were found and under his ministry many souls sought and found the Lord. Though sorely afflicted, he was a man of great zeal, and unusual power as a preacher. By some of his day, his name was linked with Bishop Long, Bishop Seybert, and John Dreisbach as one of the great preachers of the denomination.

He reports an Evangelical class of seventeen members (the first in Michigan), at Port Creek in December, 1838. Altimos died in 1841 and the class was disbanded, the members uniting with other

churches. For thirty years, until 1872, there was no Evangelical class in the Port Creek community. Early in 1872, Rev. J. H. Keeler announced services in the community. The response was encouraging, a revival was conducted resulting in 22 conversions. In December, 1872, a class of ten members was organized. William Walters, 79 years old, was elected class leader. The present church was erected during the pastorate of Rev. J. J. Schuknecht about 1893.

The following ministers are reported as having served this church: S. Altimos, — — Choate, C. S. Brown, J. Borough, J. H. Keeler, J. W. Loose, D. P. Rumberger, J. Frankhauser, S. B. Hibbard, A. M. Haddix, J. J. Schuknecht, A. A. Scheurer, C. J. Gurney, F. E. Armstrong, H. Spitler, George Hall, C. B. Greenman, C. A. Sanders, E. Pritchard, A. A. Weinert, W. Crothers, E. C. Braun, M. F. Lempke and A. D. Burch.

The present membership is 21. The Sunday-school enrollment is 47.

COHOCTAH

Fowlerville Mission

May 14, 1858, Rev. Mr. Schmid, an Evangelical Lutheran minister, came into this neighborhood endeavoring to form a class. Successful in getting a small class together, he departed expecting to return and continue his labors. For some reason he did not return.

In the fall of the same year (1858), Rev. Joseph Raehm of Cleveland, Ohio, came to the community and began holding meetings in the home of John Shedel. Services were held every two weeks. A class was organized with the following charter members, John and Catherine Shedel, John and Barbara Bohm, Henry and Anna Unbahoun, Geo. and Mary Schrepfer, Charles and Henrietta Greener, Henry and Hannah Zahn, John and Mary Drostén, Margaret Stelzer. John Bohm was elected first class leader and Henry Unbahoun, steward,

In 1864, the first church building (20 x 30 ft.) was erected on the present site, the land being donated by Geo. Schrepfer. The church was dedicated in September, 1864, by Rev. John Miller, presiding elder(?). Rev. F. Zeller was the first regularly appointed pastor, serving 1858-59. The Cohoctah church was the first Evangelical church in Livingston County and the second church of any denomination in the county. The church was incorporated in 1864 with Louis Ketcham and Geo. Schrepfer, trustees.

The church has belonged to the following circuits: Owosso, Flint, Pierpont and Howell. In 1880, the circuit consisted of six appointments,—Cohoctah, Howell, Byron, Genoa and two appointments in or near Lansing. Hayner, Gleason, Delhi, Graham (East Cohoctah), Conway, Lennon and Break-O-Day have also been connected with Cohoctah at various times.

A Sunday school was organized in 1860. In 1880 this became a union school.

As far as can be ascertained the following have served this field as pastor: J. Raehm; G. Doll, 1865-66; J. M. Fuchs, 1866-67; J. M. Fuchs and E. Weiss, 1867-68; C. Roehm and C. Weisbrod, 1868-69; C. Ude and C. Weisbrod, 1869-70; C. Roehm and C. Weisbrod, 1870-71; C. Roehm and J. Lang, 1871-72; J. M. Fuchs and L. Brumm, 1872-73; J. M. Fuchs and G. Haller, 1873-74; S. Henne and P. Bittner, 1874-75; S. Henne, 1875-76; F. Schweitzer, 1876-77; D. C. Frey, 1877-78; P. Bittner, 1878-79; E. H. Hess, 1879-81; W. F. Zander, 1881-83; D. Heininger, 1883-84; Geo. Johnson, 1884-85; J. M. Fuchs, 1885-87; W. Vogel, 1887-89; D. W. Schaefer, 1889-90; B. F. Wade, 1890-91; D. P. Rumberger, 1891-93; G. Heximer, 1893-95; F. Koehler, 1895-96; J. F. Kirn, 1896-97; F. J. Feather, 1897-98; J. E. Holsaple, 1898-1900; J. J. Marshall, 1900-03; D. J. Feather, 1903-05; F. N. Schleicher, 1905-07 (November); H. A. Frye, 1908-11; C. A. Wilkie, 1911-12; W. H. Bishop, 1912-13; F. A. Hood, 1913-15; F. H. Bailey, 1915-17; C. B. Westfall, 1917-18; W. E. Gottesleben, 1918-20; J. W. Levan, 1920-23; I. G. Gee, 1923-27; B. Mohr, 1927-29; S. Moeller, 1929-33; H. R. Krieg, 1933-35; J. H. Koteskey, 1935-39; W. S. Nelson, 1939-.

The present membership is 35. The Sunday-school enrollment is 78.

DEARBORN

In the early fifties the community about Dearborn was settled by immigrants of German descent who were adherents of the Lutheran Church. During the conference year of 1858, Rev. John P. Schnatz, pastor of the Evangelical church in Detroit, visited the community, preached in the homes of the people and laid the foundation for the Dearborn congregation. In 1859 the Ohio Conference voted to take up Dearborn as a mission and erect a church as soon as possible. Rev. J. P. Schnatz was appointed as pastor. A class was organized with the following charter members: Louis Roeser, Conrad Fregal, W. Woelke, John Wild and wife, John Orth, Fred Koch, Chris Prehn, Mary Kiser, Anna Prush, Chris Crausa, Mary Schultz and Mr. and Mrs. Shaw.

John Orth, later a minister in the Michigan Conference, was appointed as the first class leader. During his pastorate, Rev. Schnatz held a revival in which he preached against sin in all its various forms. Many of the people thought of it as a strange doctrine. The Evangelical emphasis upon regeneration and justification as necessary in this life caused hearts to inquire for forgiveness and salvation. Hence the Dearborn Evangelical church was born in a revival spirit.

The Dearborn Mission at the time of its founding included other preaching places, among them Wayne, Ypsilanti and Plymouth. In the year of 1860, Rev. J. M. Haug became the pastor and the circuit was extended to include Ann Arbor. Later Ann Arbor was detached.

The first church building was erected in 1860. In 1871 it was enlarged to accommodate a growing congregation. The first parsonage was erected in 1876 during the pastorate of Rev. D. Heininger. An increase in membership made it necessary to remodel and enlarge the church again in 1905 during the pastorate of Rev. P. Scheurer. The present parsonage was erected in 1913, Rev. W. H. Wagner being the pastor.

Again a more adequate church edifice became necessary and in 1921, under the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Nyce, a fine new church edifice was erected at a cost of \$50,000.00. During the ministry of Rev. D. F. Binder, a beautiful Hillgreen-Lane two manual pipe organ was installed and a Steinway piano was also purchased.

The present church membership numbers 353 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 410.

The following pastors have served for the periods indicated: Rev. J. P. Schnatz, 1859-60; J. M. Haug, 1860-61; C. Deike and J. Frankhauser, 1861-62; S. Henne, 1862-64; J. M. Fuchs, 1864-65; C. Roehm, 1865-66; J. Borough, 1866-67; D. Heininger and L. Engel, 1867-68; M. Speck, 1868-70; J. M. Fuchs and E. H. Hess, 1870-71; J. M. Fuchs and F. Schweitzer, 1871-72; C. Deike and F. Mueller, 1872-74; C. Deike, 1874-75; D. Heininger, 1875-76; F. F. Meyer, 1876-77; J. M. Fuchs, 1877-78; J. Orth, 1878-80; C. G. Koch, 1880-82; J. Meck, 1882-85; J. Young, 1885-88; C. Ude, 1888-91; C. W. Ross, 1891-94; E. Weiss, 1894-97; H. T. Strauch, 1897-1900; W. A. Bulgrin, 1900-04; P. Scheurer, 1904-08; S. Salsbery, 1908-12; J. A. Frye, 1912-13; W. H. Wagner, 1913-15; A. A. Scheurer, 1915-20; J. M. Nyce, 1920-27; G. H. Kellermann, 1927-33; D. F. Binder, 1933-.

DETROIT CALVARY

The present Calvary church represents the merger of the former Grand River and the Hamilton Avenue churches.

The (Grand River) Mission was established in 1900 as an *English* mission. Rev. J. J. Schuknecht was appointed pastor and opened a Sunday school in a store building on the corner of Wabash and Warren Avenues. Later a site for a chapel was secured at Kirby near Loraine Avenue. The chapel was erected and dedicated February 21, 1901, Bishop Bowman officiating.

In 1906, under the ministry of Rev. D. C. Ostroth a new chapel was erected at a new site on Grand River, and Kirby and dedicated by Rev. L. H. Seager, April 28, 1907, as the Grand River Avenue church.

During the second pastorate of Rev. C. B. Stroh in the year of 1922, operations were begun on the erection of a beautiful new edifice costing \$80,000.00. The building was dedicated in 1923 and used by the congregation until 1930. Due to radical changes in the com-

munity the congregation decided in 1930 to merge with the Calvary congregation at the present site.

The following served as pastor of the Grand River church: J. J. Schuknecht, 1900 to fall of 1902; J. S. Deabler for balance of the year; J. M. Nyce, 1903-06; D. C. Ostroth, 1906-10; C. B. Stroh, 1910-14; E. S. Faust, 1914-19; G. H. Kellermann, 1919-20; D. O. Rùth, 1920-22; C. B. Stroh, 1922-24; E. D. Riebel, 1924-26; E. S. Faust, 1926-30.

The (Hamilton Blvd.) church was established as the second Young People's Alliance Mission of the Michigan Conference. A site was purchased on the corner of Collingwood and Hamilton Avenues. In March, 1913, a church society of twelve members was organized under the leadership of Rev. J. A. Halmhuber. A chapel was erected and dedicated July 6, 1913, at a cost of \$7,092.00. A fine parsonage was also erected beside the church at a cost of \$3,413.00. For some reason, perhaps due to an inadequate building, our progress was slow. In 1926 it was decided to relocate at Fenkell near Mark Twain under the name Calvary church. Steps toward relocation were taken by Rev. C. B. Westfall and completed under the ministry of Rev. F. W. Kirn.

The following served the Hamilton Blvd. church as pastor: Rev. D. C. Ostroth, 1913-16; C. F. Gackler, 1916-18; F. J. Winter, 1918-22; C. B. Westfall, 1922-25; F. W. Kirn, 1925-26.

After the relocation and renaming of the former Hamilton Blvd. church, the new Calvary church worshipped in a temporary building until 1930. F. W. Kirn served as pastor until 1928. W. T. Bandeen served as pastor from 1928 to 1930.

In 1930 the Grand River congregation merged with the Calvary church, a new site purchased at Hubbel near Fenkell and the educational unit of a new church plant erected. The church has made encouraging progress.

The following have served as pastor: E. S. Faust, 1930-34; D. C. Ostroth, 1934-36; C. A. Wilkie, 1936-.

The present membership is 498. The Sunday-school enrollment is 502.

CHELSEA AVENUE

The Chelsea Avenue church resulting from a relocation of the former Harper Avenue church, a digest of the combined history of these churches is given.

The Harper Avenue Mission was established through the efforts of the Mack Avenue congregation. The initiative was taken by the pastor, Rev. J. A. Halmhuber, and the trustees of the Mack Avenue church. The quarterly conference under date of May 1, 1915, author-

ized the organization of the Harper Avenue Sunday school and referred the financial needs to the pastor and missionary committee. Mr. E. Kleinhardt was appointed superintendent of the mission Sunday school. A theater was rented for the services and the school organized May 9, 1915, the attendance being 19. Miss Ernestine Dietzel, deaconess, was appointed to work in the community. The enrollment soon reached 75. Preaching services were well attended and a prayer service averaged eight in attendance.

In 1916, the Annual Conference detached Harper Mission from Mack Avenue and placed it under the supervision of Rev. A. Halmhuber, city missionary. In the fall of 1915, lots were purchased on the corner of Harper and Fisher Avenues, and the chapel formerly used at Kercheval Mission purchased and erected. This building was used until 1920 when a "two family flat" building was erected to serve as a temporary chapel and parsonage combined. This was dedicated in November, 1920.

Rev. A. Halmhuber, assisted by Brother H. E. Spade and E. Kleinhardt was in charge of the mission until the spring of 1918 when Rev. L. F. Woodward was appointed as the first regular pastor. Miss Caroline Klump was appointed as deaconess, the church was formally organized and the congregation incorporated. During its brief history seven young men entered the ministry from this congregation.

Changed conditions in the Harper community made a relocation appear desirable with the result that in the latter part of 1928, a canvass was made of the Chelsea Avenue community. January 6, 1929, Sunday services were started in the Goodale school building at Chelsea and Dickerson. Later the site on the corner of Chelsea and Annsbury was purchased by the conference for the mission. In May, 1930, preaching services were begun, being held each Sunday in the Goodale school auditorium. Early in the pastorate of Rev. M. H. Willard, the Harper congregation was merged with the Chelsea congregation. A temporary church building was purchased from the Lutheran people and moved to the present site at a cost, for the entire project, of \$1,000.00. The outlook for the future seems to be good.

The following pastors have served the Harper-Chelsea churches for the periods indicated: L. F. Woodward, 1918-25; A. C. DeVries, 1925-27; A. P. Fisher, 1927-31; M. H. Willard, 1931-40; C. C. Gibson, 1940-.

The church membership is 111 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 268.

HEREFORD MISSION—DETROIT

Hereford Mission had its beginning May 4, 1925, when 19 people gathered in a garage at 5344 Hereford Avenue for a service. Rev. J. W. Hill, at that time pastor at Kercheval Avenue, organized the

Sunday school. For a time the Kercheval Avenue church furnished supplies for this new school. Somewhat later, lots were purchased by the conference, a building fund was started by the mission and with the aid of the conference and Kercheval Avenue together with other Sunday schools of the city, funds were gathered, and a building erected, the dedication occurring January 24, 1926, in charge of the presiding elder, W. H. Watson. Rev. J. W. Hill continued holding Sunday afternoon services at the mission. An evangelistic campaign resulted in several conversions. In May, 1926, Rev. S. Young succeeded Brother Hill as pastor at Kercheval and continued to serve Hereford until September of that year, when Rev. H. Quint was appointed pastor by C. C. Gibson, presiding elder. A class of ten charter members was organized February 17, 1927, and officers elected. The first anniversary service held January 23, 1927, with Rev. J. W. Hill in charge, resulted in pledges being given to the amount of more than \$1,500.00. The second anniversary service conducted by Rev. C. C. Gibson resulted in pledges for more than \$400.00. The original cost of the church building was about \$2,100.00. A well organized Sunday school, a Woman's Missionary Society and an Evangelical League of Christian Endeavor are among the organizations active in this growing mission.

The following have served as pastor: J. W. Hill, 1925-26; S. Young, 1926 (four months); H. L. Quint, 1926-30; A. Reynolds, 1930-32; to be supplied, 1932-33; Paul Crabtree, 1933-.

Plans for a new church edifice are under way.

The present church membership is 67. The Sunday-school enrollment is 116.

KERCHEVAL

In 1914, Rev. J. A. Halmhuber, pastor of the Mack Avenue church became interested in the Kercheval Avenue community. Streets were unpaved and only scattering houses could be seen in that locality. An apple orchard occupied the north side of Kercheval Avenue at the point where our church now stands. However, with faith in the future development of the community, the pastor of Mack Avenue and a group of his laymen pitched a tent in the apple orchard and on a Sunday afternoon in the summer of 1914, conducted the first session of the Kercheval Avenue Evangelical Sunday school. Meetings were held, a class was organized, and the community canvassed by workers. A small tabernacle served as a place of worship for a few months. The temporary building proving inadequate, a basement was soon constructed and served as a place of worship until 1922, when the superstructure was completed. The church was dedicated December 10, 1922, Bishop Breyfogel officiating.

When the superstructure was dedicated, the total debt on the property amounted to \$48,085.00. Through generous giving by the congregation and conference aid, the debt has been reduced to \$18,858.00. The congregation is now self-supporting. It has stood as one of the most generous churches of the conference in its giving, having reached an average per member of \$88.51 in 1924.

The Revs. L. S. Scheifele, Paul Crabtree, Curtis Price and Lester Dana, entered the ministry from this field. The Hereford Avenue Mission was founded by the Kercheval church.

The following ministers have served this congregation. During the first year, 1914-15, under the Dist. Sup., E. D. Riebel and John Soltman; Lewis H. Hayes, 1915-17; C. F. Giese, 1917-18; L. Polmanteer, 1918-19; J. W. Hill, 1919-26; S. Young, 1926-29; J. Schurman, 1929-32; A. C. Bauman, 1932-.

The present church membership is 200. The Sunday-school enrollment, 281.

MACK AVENUE

In the year 1905 there developed a building boom in the Mack Avenue section of Detroit. Some of our Evangelical people established their homes in this community. Rev. F. Klump, the aggressive presiding elder of the Detroit District, was not slow to see the opportunity for the location of a new church. In conjunction with Rev. A. Halmhuber, pastor of the First church and Rev. J. M. Nyce, pastor of the Grand River Avenue church, he looked over the field, decided to locate a mission and rented a barber shop located on Mack Avenue between Van Dyke and Parker Avenues. In this building, about New Year's, 1906, the Sunday school was organized with an enrollment of about 100 members.

The mission was in charge of Rev. A. Halmhuber, the pastor of the First church, and most of the teachers in the Sunday school were volunteers from this church.

In April, 1906, Rev. E. G. Johnson was appointed as the first pastor. The lots of the present site were purchased and the construction of the church begun at once. During the summer services were held in a tent erected on the lot adjoining the church. The pastor was assisted by the Rev. Paul S. Mayer, now a missionary to Japan, in an evangelistic effort that resulted in the organization of the society. The church was dedicated by Bishop Bowman in February, 1907. In the summer of 1912-13, the basement was completed and a steam heating plant installed for the entire building. During the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Nyce, the parsonage was erected. About 1918, under the pastorate of Rev. J. A. Halmhuber, the parsonage was moved to a new site and a large new auditorium erected to the south of the original building. Sunday-school rooms were erected

to the sidewalk on the north completing an imposing structure valued at about \$90,000.00 at the time of its completion.

During the years when the community was developing, under the able leadership of the pastors in charge, the church made very rapid progress reaching the high point in its membership of 603 in 1921. In recent years, foreign groups have been moving into the community making numerical progress more difficult than was formerly true. Three of our prosperous missions in the Detroit area had their beginnings in the missionary zeal of the Mack Avenue church.

The following have served as pastors: E. G. Johnson, 1906-09; G. Koehler, 1909-10; J. M. Nyce, 1910-12; J. A. Halmhuber, 1912-19; C. B. Stroh, 1919-22; C. C. Gibson, 1922-26; W. H. Watson, 1926-28; H. I. Voelker, 1928-32; W. Koteskey, 1932-40; H. I. Voelker, 1940-.

The present church membership is 475. The Sunday-school enrollment is 403.

TWELFTH STREET—DETROIT

Late in March, 1916, Rev. D. C. Ostroth, pastor at Hamilton Blvd., and Mr. Norman Broadway, a member of the same church, opened a mission Sunday school in a store building at Twelfth and Waverly Streets. In April, 1916, Rev. A. Halmhuber was appointed missionary and assumed supervision of this mission. Mr. N. Broadway acted as superintendent. It soon became necessary to transfer the Sunday school to a public school building. Later the Detroit Council of Churches allocated the territory to the Evangelical Church and the Baptists, who had also established a Sunday school, withdrew. Later the mission was continued in the home of Mr. Broadway. During the year a suitable site was purchased on the corner of Twelfth and Division. The site consisted of four lots with total dimensions of 100 x 132 feet and was purchased from Robert Oakman. Three lots were purchased and the fourth was given by Mr. Oakman unsolicited. Conference aid was given and a temporary chapel started. After a day and a half of work, the construction of this building was stopped by objectors on the ground that restrictions on the property prohibited temporary buildings. Plans and specifications for a church were prepared. It was decided to build only the basement first.

In April, 1917, Rev. G. A. Spitler was appointed as pastor. He arrived from school in July. Services were held in a tent while the basement was in process of construction. The basement was completed in December and was dedicated January 27, 1918, by Bishop L. H. Seager. February 17, 1918, the class was organized with 11 charter members. At the close of the year there were 43 members in the church and the Sunday school had an average attendance of 126. The total indebtedness was \$18,700.00.

In 1920, the conference granted the society the privilege of issuing bonds in amount of \$50,000.00 for the erection of the superstructure. This was completed in the fall of 1922, being dedicated by Bishop J. F. Dunlap, newly elected bishop, this being his first dedication after election. In 1923, a fine parsonage was erected beside the church. A fine pipe organ was installed in 1924. W. H. Camfield was pastor during the erection of the superstructure, the building of the parsonage and the installing of the organ.

This mission has made fine progress, having a present membership of 426 and a Sunday-school enrollment of 563, the largest in the conference.

The following pastors have served this church: A. Halmhuber, 1916-17; G. A. Spitler, 1917-22; W. H. Camfield, 1922-26; R. R. Brown, 1926-31; A. E. Kurth, 1931-40; N. C. Liesemer, 1940-.

WATERMAN AVENUE

In 1891 the conference ordered that West Detroit should be taken up as a mission to be served with Dearborn. A second action in 1895 established the mission as the West Fort Street Mission. It was served by Rev. A. Kaechele, pastor of Detroit First church. A class of eighteen members was formed. The first services were conducted in German. During the pastorate of Rev. P. H. Pohly, English preaching was introduced.

The first church edifice, a small chapel, was erected by Rev. A. Kaechele and dedicated in 1896 by Rev. G. Heinmiller. The chapel was extensively remodeled during the pastorate of Rev. J. A. Halmhuber. During the pastorate of Rev. C. C. Gibson, the present church edifice was erected, being dedicated in 1919.

There were a number of periods of crisis in the early history of the congregation, when there was fear that the work would have to be abandoned. However each crisis was successfully overcome.

The following have served as pastors of this church: A. Kaechele, 1896-98; F. W. Dill, 1898-1900; C. W. Ross, 1900-02; P. H. Pohly, 1902-05; W. A. Koehler, 1905-06 (because of illness of Brother Koehler, W. H. Halmhuber served during the last six months); W. M. Sippell, 1906-07; J. A. Halmhuber, 1907-12; C. C. Gibson, 1912-19; E. S. Faust, 1919-26; W. Koteskey, 1926-32; F. W. Kirm, 1932-40; D. C. Ostroth, 1940-.

The present church membership is 365. The Sunday-school enrollment is 336.

EAST DETROIT

During the pastorate of Rev. C. B. Stroh at Mack Avenue church, a family from Mack, "the Voltz family," moved to the community then known as Halfway. In calling on the family, Rev. Stroh looked

over the community and decided that here was an "open door" for the Evangelical Church. Through the aid of Mr. George Fischer, Hummrick's Hall was secured as meeting place, the first service being held at 2:30 P. M., Sunday, February 6, 1921, 60 persons attending this first service. Through action of the quarterly conference, Mack Avenue voted to sponsor this new mission. Regular Sunday afternoon services were continued. The pastor, assisted by Miss M. A. Marty, conducted a week of special services before Easter and on Easter Sunday, April, 1921, a class of 33 were received as charter members of the church. The Sunday school grew rapidly to an enrollment of 120 in the first three months.

The conference, at its 1921 session, placed the mission under supervision of Rev. C. B. Stroh, pastor at Mack Avenue, with Rev. B. G. Thomas as assistant, who with the first of September became superintendent of the Sunday school and alternated in preaching with Rev. Stroh. At the end of the first year the Sunday-school enrollment was 125 and the church membership 44. In March, Bishop Breyfogel visited the mission and received pledges of over \$600.00 for the new project.

In the spring of 1922, Halfway Mission was detached from Mack Avenue and given a full-time pastor in the person of Rev. A. A. Weinert. During Brother Weinert's pastorate, the mission made steady growth and purchased a site for a church building.

In 1924, the conference appointed Rev. J. Riebel as pastor. Recognizing the need for a church building, he initiated the effort that resulted in the erection of a permanent structure, frame construction, 32 by 70 feet, with a seating capacity of 350, at a cost of \$5,700.00. Against this cost, \$700.00 was raised before dedication and \$2,377.00 in cash and pledges on the day of dedication. Much labor was donated and valuable financial aid given by members from Mack, Grand River and Waterman churches. The church was dedicated by Rev. G. E. Epp.

During the pastoral year of 1927-28, under Brother Riebel's leadership a fine parsonage was built at a cost of \$6,800.00, on a lot very generously donated by Mr. John Clark, a member of the church.

During a brief ministry of nine months, culminating with his death, Rev. F. E. Putnam did a very fine piece of work with the young people. His untimely death cut short what promised to be a successful pastorate.

Rev. L. S. Scheifele succeeded Brother Putnam and continued effective leadership with substantial gains. During 1932 the church was moved to the rear of the lot, a fine basement built, the building replastered and the property otherwise improved.

For more than four years Rev. S. Moeller ably served until the time of his death in November, 1938. During the period of his ministry, substantial progress was made in wiping out the remaining indebtedness.

The present church membership is 117 and the Sunday-school enrollment, 296.

The following have served as pastor for the periods indicated: C. B. Stroh, assisted by B. G. Thomas, 1921-22; A. A. Weinert, 1922-24; J. Riebel, 1924-29; F. E. Putnam, 1929-30 (nine months); L. S. Scheifele, 1930-34; S. Moeller, 1934 to time of his death; Geo. Belknap, 1938 as assistant to S. Moeller and after his death as pastor to 1940; M. H. Willard, 1940-.

ERIE

Erie Appointment

According to available reports it is probable that Solomon Altimos was the first Evangelical minister to preach in the vicinity of the Erie church. Following Altimos came ministers from the Ohio Conference, the services being held in the homes of the people.

The class was organized in 1856 with the following charter members: M. Blouch, Sr., and wife; M. Blouch, Jr., and wife; Miss Nancy Elliot, Thomas Elliot, Nehemiah Light and wife, and Rev. R. Spotts (Spatz) and wife. Rev. J. Borough and wife soon moved to the community and united with the church.

In 1866, the society purchased the Free Will Baptist church which was located in the community. This served as a place of worship until about 1884 when the present Erie church was erected. In 1890 the church had 45 members and a Sunday-school enrollment of 80. In 1937 and 1938, under the ministry of Rev. H. D. Oeschger the Erie church was extensively remodeled, a fine basement completed, the church lot landscaped and other improvements made at a cost of about \$3,000.00. In the rearrangement of circuits from time to time, the church has been served with several other churches. For a number of years it was a part of the Monroe Circuit.

Among the ministers who preached in the community or served as pastor in the earlier years were: S. Altimos, R. Spotts, C. A. Munk, D. Rosenberg, J. J. Kopp, L. Georgi, J. Borough, George Doll, H. B. McBride, and J. Paulin. Since 1884 the following have served for the periods indicated: J. W. Loose, 1884-85; A. J. Gramley and F. C. Berger, 1885-86; J. J. Bernhardt, 1886-87; P. Scheurer, 1887-89 (W. F. Kring, associate, 1888-89); A. A. Scheurer, 1889-92; F. C. Berger, 1892-95; J. S. Steininger, 1895-97; J. M. Nyce, 1897-1900; George Kochler, 1900-02; O. P. Schleicher, 1902-05; J. E. Holsaple, 1905-07; G. W. Coss, 1907-08; V. Buxton, 1908-10; H. Smith, 1910-11; F. L. Pohly, 1911-12; W. H. Fairchild, 1912-13; E. S. Dutcher, 1913-14; H. H. Donnenworth, 1914-16; O. N. Braun, 1916-19; E. A. Perone, 1919-20 (Perone died May, 1920, and P. Thomas supplied for the latter part of the

year); A. R. Fischer, 1921-23; B. E. Belknap, 1923-26; H. A. Gunyan, 1926-32; W. S. Nelson, 1932-34; H. D. Oeschger, 1934-41; G. D. Everett, 1941-.

LaSalle (Zion) Appointment

The Zion Class was organized during the spring months of 1866 (One report says 1863), and was constituted a part of the Adrian Circuit. Rev. C. Thomas, D. Laudenschlager, J. A. Scheurer, P. Wittman, G. Winnis, M. Seip, J. Nagel, and C. Schultz and their respective families formed the nucleus for this congregation. For a number of years the services were held in private homes and school-houses. In 1871 the present church edifice was erected. The eleventh session of the Michigan Conference was held in this church in 1875. At least six ministers have entered active service from this appointment. Since the appointment has been served with the Erie church during most, if not all, of its history, the list of ministers above will apply for this appointment also.

The present membership of the field is 118 and the Sunday-school enrollment, 176.

FERNDALE

In the year of 1916, the few church-going families in Ferndale attended Union services in the old Central school building which is now the home of the Ferndale Public Library. During this year, Mr. and Mrs. Renton appealed to the state organization of the Evangelical Church to make a survey of this territory. The survey was made and it was decided to organize a church in this community.

On June 14, 1917, the organization was effected with 37 charter members, Rev. Charles E. Reidt being appointed pastor. A tabernacle was erected during the winter of 1916-17 and served as a place of worship until the present church structure was erected in 1920. Under the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Wagner the erection of the present church building was begun. The building was completed and the dedicatory services held December 12, 1920, Bishop S. P. Spreng officiating. Just previous to the erection of the church, Rev. Wagner directed the building of a fine seven-room parsonage.

This church was the first church built in Ferndale. While there have been many difficulties in the way of its progress, yet it has steadily grown through the years of its service. It has done an exceptionally fine piece of service in the community through the Sunday school and other auxiliaries of the church.

The financial burden has been heavy and discouraging but with the aid of the conference, the coöperation of creditors and the sacrificial giving of the congregation, the debt has been greatly reduced and it is felt that the future looks much brighter. It is hoped that the church will soon be able to begin reduction on the remaining indebtedness.

The present church membership is 158. The Sunday-school enrollment is 260.

The following have served the church as pastor for the period indicated: C. E. Reidt, 1917-18; F. J. Winter, 1918 (transferred after a few weeks to fill a vacancy left by the death of C. F. Gackler); R. R. Brown, 1918 to fall of 1919; W. H. Wagner, November, 1919-22; J. S. Deabler, 1922-24; L. E. Chamberlain, 1924-30; O. G. Knechtel, 1930-.

HOWELL

About 1875, Rev. F. Schweitzer came to Howell as the first Evangelical minister to visit that city. The first services were held in private homes. Later the services were held in a hall over the fire station.

The Howell congregation was duly organized July 28, 1881, as the Emmanuel church of the Evangelical Association. In the beginning, all services were held in the German language and for the first year after the class was organized, services were held only once in two weeks. For several years, Howell was part of a circuit, being served with other churches.

The first trustees of the church were Henry Weimeister, Sr., George Hornung, and Carl Ekel. In the year of 1882, under the supervision of the trustees together with Rev. W. F. Zander, the preacher-in-charge, and Rev. J. M. Fuchs, presiding elder, the first church was built at a cost of \$2,000.00. A parsonage and barn were also built at a cost of \$700.00 and \$100.00 respectively. The church structure was remodeled in 1906 under the supervision of Rev. O. C. Penticoff, pastor, and Rev. F. Klump, presiding elder. A cement block structure was erected in the place of the frame structure originally built.

The Howell Mission in the earlier years was composed of the appointments Howell, Cohoctah, Conway, Byron, and Webberville. The preaching services from 1881 to 1893 were in the German language exclusively. Rev. C. Krueger first began to preach in the English language once every fourth Sunday for a period of three months. In 1893 it was decided to hold services regularly in English. In 1895, during the pastorate of Rev. S. Staebler, the German language was abandoned, and all services have been conducted in English since that time. The minutes of the society were first written and read in English in 1896.

The following have served the Howell church as pastor: F. Schweitzer, 1876-77; D. C. Frey, 1877-78; P. Bittner, 1878-79; E. H. Hess, 1879-81; W. F. Zander, 1881-83; D. Heininger, 1883-85; J. G. Haller, 1885-87; A. Halmhuber, 1887-89; J. M. Haug, 1889-91; C. Krueger, 1891-94; H. C. Fuerstenau, 1894-95; S. Staebler, 1895-96; J. Riebel, 1896-99; W. C. Swenk, 1899-1903; W. B. Oldt, 1903-05; O. C. Penticoff, 1905-07; A. A. Scheurer, 1907-08; J. S. Deabler, 1908-10; C. A. Wilkie, 1910-15; W. Koteskey, 1915-21; F. W. Fall, 1921-23; O. P. Schleicher, 1923-25; W. Gumser, 1925-27;

B. Mohr, 1927-29; S. Moeller, 1929-33; E. C. Braun, 1933-36; W. P. Peck, 1936-41; H. D. Oeschger, 1941-.

The present church membership is 112. The Sunday-school enrollment is 134.

IDA CIRCUIT

Ida Appointment

The exact date of the beginning of the work in Ida is uncertain. Some time during the conference year of 1881-82, Rev. S. Heininger, pastor on Monroe Circuit began preaching in Ida. Success attended his efforts and it appears probable that the class was organized in 1882, S. McFetridge and wife, Wm. Kloeppel and wife, James Mills and wife, Mr. Ackley and wife and Emma Schafer being among the charter members. The work made satisfactory progress and in 1891 the church was erected during the pastorate of Rev. A. A. Scheurer. The parsonage was built during the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Nyce.

The South Raisenville church, located a short distance from Ida, was organized under the ministry of Rev. R. Spotts (or Spatz) in 1863, though meetings were held in the vicinity several years earlier by missionaries from the Ohio Conference. This society had 33 charter members, including some whose descendants became members of the Ida church. A brick church was erected in 1866, Jacob Brost, a charter member at East Raisenville, being the builder.

East Raisenville Appointment

The East Raisenville Society was organized in 1863. Among the charter members were Rev. E. Loose and family, Darius Loose and family, Jacob Brost and family, Lewis Klein and wife, C. H. Kring and wife, Jacob Newcomer and wife, John Netcher and wife, Jacob Brightbill and wife. January 18, 1874, a fine brick church was dedicated which is still in use.

East Raisenville entertained the Annual Conference in 1880 and 1892 and Ida in 1899. The present membership on the field is 136 and the enrollment in the Sunday school, 191.

The Brethren S. Altimos, C. A. Munk, D. Rosenberg, J. J. Kopp, and L. Georgi are among the ministers who preached in the Ida community before the organization of the Michigan Conference. The following have served as pastor of the Monroe or Ida Circuits since the organization of the conference: J. Borough, Geo. Doll, H. D. McBride, R. Spotts, J. Paulin, S. Copley, J. H. Keeler, D. W. Schafer, W. Riemke, C. S. Brown, S. Hippard, J. A. Frye, D. P. Rumberger, F. E. Erdman, S. Heininger, H. Spitler, A. J. Gramley, J. J. Bernhardt, J. W. Loose, B. F. Wade, F. Mueller, and P. Scheurer. The period of service is not given and order in which the names appear is probably not correct. Beginning with 1889 we have the following: A. A. Scheurer, 1889-92; F. C. Berger, 1892-95; J. S. Steininger, 1895-97; J. M. Nyce, 1897-

1900; Geo. Koehler, 1900-03; W. S. McDivitt, 1903-05; W. C. Swenk, 1905-08; G. Knechtel, 1908-11; O. P. Schleicher, 1911-15; Geo. Hall, 1915-16; John Kirn, 1916-19; D. J. Feather, 1919-21; A. J. Hettler, 1921-22; W. Gumser, 1922-24; G. E. Klopfenstein, 1924-27; W. T. Bandeen, 1927-28; C. A. Parker, 1928-35; J. Schurman, 1935-36; C. S. Harrington, 1936-41; H. A. Brannan, 1941-.

MONROE

In August, 1903, the Detroit District Young People's Alliance took the initiative in establishing a conference Young People's Alliance mission. The plan was approved by the conference branch and in April, 1905, the Michigan Conference selected Monroe as the location for the new mission and Rev. W. L. Martin was appointed as the missionary. In June, 1905, a site on the corner of Third and Harrison was purchased for \$1,000.00. The district camp-meeting tent was secured for a series of meetings. The pastor was ably assisted by Rev. E. M. Renner. July 1, 1905, a class of 29 charter members was organized. During the summer and fall, the pastor spent much of his time soliciting funds. In December, a building was secured at 21 East Front Street, where services were held, a number being saved and uniting with the church. A building committee with Rev. S. P. Hippard, president; E. M. Loose, secretary and Thomas Hansberger, Jr., treasurer, was elected. Plans and specifications were furnished by E. P. Floater of Bay City. In April, 1906, Mr. J. A. Lane, contractor, was engaged to supervise construction and work on the new building immediately began. A cement block church costing approximately \$10,000.00 was erected.

It was decided to hold the annual convention of the conference branch Young People's Alliance at Monroe in conjunction with the dedicatory services. The combined event was held September 6 to 9, 1906. With Bishop S. C. Breyfogel, Rev. G. B. Kimmel, Dr. G. J. Kirn and Rev. F. C. Berger as special speakers, the entire program was a marked success. Sunday the 9th Bishop Breyfogel dedicated the church. Subscriptions amounting to more than \$3,000.00 were received for the liquidating of the debt.

During the pastorate of Rev. E. G. Frye, a comfortable parsonage was erected. About 1921, during the pastorate of Rev. G. H. Kellermann, the basement was completed and extensive improvements made on the church. This first Memorial church of the young people of Michigan is now a prosperous church with a membership of 266. The Sunday-school enrollment is 326. These figures do not include Second church.

The following have served as pastor: W. L. Martin, 1905-10; E. E. Wood, 1910 (left during the year); W. H. Halmhuber, 1911 (served but a few weeks); E. G. Frye, June, 1911-15; D. O. Ruth, 1915-20; G. H. Kellermann,

1920-27; L. E. Willoughby, 1927-34; C. C. Gibson, 1934-35; G. H. Kellermann, 1935-37; G. A. Spitler, 1937-41; W. P. Peck, 1941-.

MONROE SECOND

Early in 1927, as the result of considerable development in the Patterson Gardens subdivision on the west side of Monroe, the First church of Monroe, Rev. G. H. Kellermann being the pastor, became interested in establishing a mission Sunday school in this section. A study of the community revealed considerable interest in the project.

Mr. C. D. Patterson made a valuable contribution toward the development of the mission by contributing a fine building site, the gift being consummated April 16, 1927. The project was approved by the Michigan Conference which coöperated in the building of a mission chapel. The chapel was dedicated December 7, 1927.

Under the leadership of the pastors of the First church, the work has made commendable progress. In 1935, a class in church membership was formed as a part of the First church organization. The present Sunday-school enrollment is 143 and the church membership 61. The prospect for the future is encouraging. For a list of pastors who have served the mission see First church sketch.

OGDEN

About 1860, a number of settlers moved into the Ogden community. They were largely of German extraction and it was not long until Rev. C. Beagle, a local minister of the Evangelical church, became aware of their presence and recognized the spiritual need and the opportunity for establishing a preaching place. The first services were held in the homes of the people.

The class was organized in 1864 by Rev. Jonas Borough. The charter members were Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jacob, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Jacob, Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Burk, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rohrbach, Mr. and Mrs. George Uluth, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Becker, Mr. and Mrs. Adam Ries, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hafer, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Meyer and Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Iffland.

For several years the congregation worshipped in the homes of the members and the schoolhouse. In 1868 a church building project was undertaken. Even though many of the people were living in log houses, they undertook the erection of a frame structure, a building representative for the time in which it was erected. This building served as a house of worship until 1901.

The following pastors served the congregation up to 1900. Since the Ogden appointment was attached to several different circuits at

different times, it is difficult to give the date and length of service. S. Copley, Geo. Doll, J. Borough, H. D. McBride, J. Paulin, R. Spatz, C. Deike, C. Ude, Fred Zeller, S. Henne, D. W. Schafer J. Young, J. J. Bernhardt, N. Frye, J. Snyder, John Miller, H. Voelker, S. Salsbery, A. Frye, W. Stipe.

In 1901, under the wise leadership of Rev. J. M. Nyce the old church was sold and a more suitable building purchased from the United Brethren. This building was moved to the present site where it served until 1926 when the building was extensively remodeled and greatly enlarged making a very fine rural church edifice. The cost of this improvement was about \$12,000.00. In 1928 the church purchased its own parsonage. This building later burned and was replaced by the present parsonage.

The following have served the field as pastor since 1900: J. M. Nyce, 1900-02; R. N. Holsaple, 1902-04; F. E. Armstrong, 1904-05; G. W. Coss, 1905-07; C. J. Gurney, 1907-08; E. L. Marsh, 1908-10; W. D. Gamertsfelder, 1910-11; C. M. Early, 1911-13; E. B. Leisenring, 1913-14; J. G. Hart, 1914-15; G. A. Hettler, 1915-16; W. E. Gottesleben, 1916-18; C. B. Westfall, 1918-20; F. Koehler, 1920-23; W. F. Kring, 1923-25; J. Kirn, 1925-27; G. E. Klopfenstein, 1927-29; M. H. Willard, 1929-31; C. Trueschal, 1931-32; R. H. Lahr, 1932-39; W. F. Boettcher, 1939-.

A. E. Kurth and N. W. Klump have entered the ministry from this church. The present church membership is 107. The Sunday-school enrollment is 165.

PONTIAC-BALDWIN AVENUE

In the Quarterly Conference of Calvary church (Pontiac), held May 1, 1917, it was reported that the development in the North End of the city offered opportunities for a new mission. After due investigation a Sunday school was opened in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Cronkite, 25 Hudson Avenue, in October, 1917. Attendance grew and larger quarters were found in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Polsom. In December, 1917, a lot was purchased and a temporary tabernacle seating 150 persons erected. The first service, a Christmas program, was held in the new building December 31, 1917. Rev. J. M. Nyce, presiding elder, dedicated the new tabernacle December 31 (New Year's Eve), 1917. The Sunday school had an average attendance of 70.

The class was organized March 17, 1918. In April, 1919, the membership had increased to 50. Services were conducted each Sunday afternoon by Rev. J. H. Soltman, pastor of Calvary church. In 1919, conference established Baldwin Avenue as a mission, appointing A. R. Kuehn pastor. Immediately the erection of a new parsonage was begun. In the summer of 1920, the erection of a new church began.

Due to high prices of materials, only the basement was completed. This unit was dedicated April 25, 1920, by Rev. T. C. Meckel of Cleveland, Ohio. In January, 1921, a successful revival was conducted by Evangelist C. A. Glass. By conference time of that year, the membership had increased to 100.

In 1927, under the ministry of J. M. Nyce, the erection of the superstructure of the church was accomplished. This fine new church will be adequate for many years of service in this field. Our property is now valued at \$6,000.00 for the parsonage and \$55,000.00 for the church.

The present church membership is 191. The Sunday-school enrollment is 368.

The following have served as pastor: J. H. Soltman, October, 1917-19; A. R. Kuehn, 1919-24; L. E. Willoughby, 1924-27; J. M. Nyce, 1927-28; G. Knechtel, 1928-32; J. Schurman, 1932-35; C. A. Parker, 1935-.

PONTIAC CALVARY

In the summer of 1910, four Evangelical families moved from Caro to Pontiac. Having the interests of Christ's kingdom at heart and a desire for Christian fellowship, they began holding cottage prayer meetings. In September, 1910, the Evangelical pastors of Detroit looked over the situation. Recognizing an opportunity, they began holding services in the homes of the people, each of the Detroit pastors serving alternately. During 1911-12, the work was in charge of Revs. C. B. Stroh and J. Riebel. March 25, 1912, a class of thirteen members was organized. Under the supervision of Rev. J. Riebel, the first unit of the present church was erected, being dedicated February 23, 1913.

In 1916, an eight-room, modern parsonage was built beside the church. In 1917, a substantial addition was made to the church building in the form of a wing 16 x 32 feet, giving a seating capacity of about 250 persons. Other improvements were made at the same time. In 1919, the church became self-supporting. In 1917, this church sponsored a new mission on Baldwin Avenue, now the Baldwin Avenue church. In May, 1928, the conference voted to merge the Calvary and Baldwin Avenue churches at the Baldwin Avenue site. The congregation was disbanded and the property offered for sale. However, the Calvary congregation was not satisfied and the merger was not successful. There being no opportunity to sell the building the property was rented. In 1930, the church was reopened and has made steady progress since that time.

The church was extensively remodeled in 1939. The outlook for the congregation is encouraging.

The following have served as pastor: William Koteskey, 1913-15; J. H. Soltman, 1915-September, 1919; O. M. Albig, September, 1919-21; C. G. Kaatz, 1921-24; W. Gumser, 1924-25; O. P. Schleicher, 1925-28; the church was closed for two years; W. P. Peck, 1930-36; A. A. Weinert, 1936-38; H. A. Frye, 1938-.

The present church membership is 103. The Sunday-school enrollment is 178.

SHARON

The Sharon Society was organized March 22, 1874, by Rev. Edward Weiss. There were seventeen charter members. The worship services were first held in the "Dresselhouse" schoolhouse in Freedom Township. At a meeting of the congregation held January 25, 1876, it was decided to build a church. Wm. Schulte, Henry Huesman and Henry Uphaus were elected as a building committee.

Row's Corners, Sharon Township, was chosen as the location for the new church. February 8, 1876, Herman Gieske, Lambert Gieske and Bernhard Kull were elected as the first Board of Trustees. The church was dedicated November 12, 1876, Bishop Rudolph Dubs officiating.

During the pastorate of Rev. O. P. Schleicher, a balcony was constructed in the church in 1919; new pews were purchased in 1920, and a fine brick parsonage, located in Manchester, was purchased in 1919.

In 1928, under the ministry of Rev. H. E. Spade, a Sunday-school addition was constructed adjoining the rear of the church.

For many years the Sharon church was served as a part of the Washtenaw Circuit. In 1923, Lima Center was detached from the circuit and in 1935 the church was constituted Sharon Station by action of the Michigan Conference.

From this congregation, Arthur D. Burch entered the ministry and Miss Lydia Koebbe went to China as a missionary.

The following have served the field as pastor for the periods indicated: E. Weiss, 1874-75; A. Nicolai, 1875-76; F. Zeller, 1876-79; J. Young, 1879-80; E. Weiss, 1880-82; D. W. Schaefer, 1882-84; J. Orth, 1884-86; S. Henne, 1886-88; H. Voelker, 1888-90; N. Wunderlich, 1890-93; C. Ude, 1893-96; H. T. Strauch, 1896-97; C. W. Ross, 1897-99; J. Schmaus, 1899-1902; A. Frye, 1902-03; C. Rodesiler and F. N. Schelicher, 1903-04; P. H. Pohly, 1904-06; George Koehler, 1906-08; Peter Scheurer, 1908-12; John Kirn, 1912-16; F. H. Horn, 1916-19; O. P. Schleicher, 1919-22; E. L. Marsh, 1922-25; H. E. Spade, 1925-30; W. H. Camfield, 1930-34; W. H. Fairchild, 1934-38; A. A. Weinert, 1938-.

The church membership is 142. The Sunday-school enrollment is 120.

SOUTH ROCKWOOD

We have no record as to the exact date of the beginning of the work at South Rockwood. It appears that in 1882 or 1883, Rev. J. W. Loose, pastor at Carleton began preaching in the South Rockwood community. The present church edifice was erected in 1884 under the ministry of Rev. H. Spitler, the cost being about \$5,000.00. At that time the South Rockwood appointment was a part of the Carleton Circuit. There is no information regarding the date when the first parsonage was purchased. In 1925 the old parsonage was sold and the present parsonage erected at a cost of \$6,650.00, Rev. L. F. Burkey being the pastor.

In 1940, a basement was constructed under the church, giving much needed facilities for Sunday-school work. The total cost of the basement project, including a new heating plant, was \$3,216.52. Of this amount, Mr. A. B. Chapman gave \$2,108.52 as a memorial to his deceased wife. The remainder amounting to \$1,108.00 was paid by the congregation. Rev. G. C. Murbach was pastor during this period. The congregation is free from debt.

The following have served as pastor of this church beginning with 1884: H. Spitler, 1884-86; A. A. Scheurer, 1886-89; P. Scheurer, 1889-92; J. J. Schuknecht, 1892-94; A. A. Scheurer, 1894-97; A. M. Haddix, 1897-99; F. E. Armstrong, 1899-1902; F. J. Feather, 1902-06; J. M. Bittner, 1906-08; W. L. Martin, 1908-10; E. L. Marsh, 1910-12; D. C. Brown, 1912-13; George Hall, 1913-15; F. Koehler, 1915-20; A. A. Scheurer, 1920 (four months); J. Riebel, 1920-24; L. F. Burkey, 1924-26; E. C. Braun, 1926-33; S. P. Kirn, 1933-38; W. H. Fairchild, 1938-40; G. C. Murbach, 1940-.

The present membership is 38. The Sunday-school enrollment is 134.

South Rockwood—Newport Appointment

The work of the Evangelical Church at Newport began during the ministry of Rev. J. Riebel about 1922. Brother Riebel found an opening in a Union church where the Congregational people had formerly served. Finding an encouraging response to his ministry, Brother Riebel continued preaching at Newport until 1926. Being appointed as pastor in 1926, Rev. L. F. Burkey encouraged the organization of a class. This was accomplished in the fall of 1926. The work has made only fair progress.

WAUSEON

Wauseon Appointment

The Wauseon Class was organized in the winter of 1877 with Hugh Gallagher as class leader. The society was incorporated in March,

1878. For three years services were held in a rented hall on Fulton Street. Rev. C. S. Brown was the pastor.

At about this time other classes were formed near Wauseon as follows: A new class with twelve members was formed at Swan Creek, about three miles east of Delta, in November, 1877. Samuel Hepplebower was elected class leader. In February, 1879, a class of thirty members was organized two miles east of Ottokee, Thomas Fleming being elected class leader.

In 1884, the Wauseon class was transferred to the Salem and Emmanuel classes. A break in the records occurs but later work was begun in Wauseon again and in 1895 the present church was built. Rev. J. M. Nyce was the pastor and preached the first sermon in the new church, September 29, 1895. The first prayer meeting was held in the church on the 28th of September and was conducted by Rev. Blizzard, a local minister.

When Rev. W. F. Kring was appointed to the field in 1897, the circuit consisted of five appointments: Wauseon, Hartman, Salem, New Bethel and St. Paul. In 1899, Rev. W. L. Martin was appointed as assistant to Rev. Kring. That year Lebanon was taken from Whitehouse and attached to Wauseon. New appointments were taken up at Pettisville and Napoleon (?). One after another of the out appointments weakened and were abandoned leaving only Lebanon and Wauseon remaining.

Due to various unfavorable conditions, the Wauseon church weakened. In 1928, Rev. C. S. Harrington was appointed as pastor and found but 17 members remaining. Under his ministry the tide was turned and in a period of eight years 66 members were added, a new basement was constructed with a new heating plant at a total cost of \$5,600.00. Recently the church has been redecorated and remodeled inside and painted outside. Wauseon now has a very fine building for worship and Sunday-school purposes.

The following ministers have served the church and circuit: C. S. Brown, 1877-79; J. W. Loose, 1879-81; B. F. Wade, 1881-82; E. B. Arthur, 1882-84; A. A. Scheurer, 1884-86; H. Spitler, 1886-87; C. S. Brown, 1887-89; W. H. Wagner, 1889-93; H. Voelker, 1893-94; J. M. Nyce, 1894-97; W. F. Kring, 1897-1900; W. L. Martin served as assistant, 1899-1900; A. Frye and W. L. Martin, 1900-01; A. Frye and J. S. Deabler, 1901-02; D. J. Feather, 1902-03; W. C. Swenk, 1903-05; F. E. Armstrong, 1905-06; C. Richards, 1906-08; C. J. Gurney, 1908-11; H. A. Frye, 1911-14; W. D. Hayes, 1914-16; V. A. Blanchard, 1916-17; E. L. Marsh, 1917-18; D. F. Binder, 1918-19; S. Cormany, 1919-20; W. F. Kring, 1920-23; R. J. Strifler, 1923-24; S. R. Wurtz, 1924-26; E. L. Marsh, 1926-28; C. S. Harrington, 1928-36; W. Crothers, 1936-.

The present church membership is 93. The Sunday-school enrollment is 124.

Lebanon Appointment

The Lebanon Class held its first worship services in a building at Luke's Corners, the exact date being uncertain. The church was incorporated in 1872. As early as 1873 there were 47 members. This church has been served with Wauseon, Whitehouse and Ogden at various times. The present membership is 29. The Sunday-school enrollment is 38. The congregation has been making encouraging progress in recent years.

SOUTH WHITEFORD

In 1858, Rev. Jacob Schaefer organized the South Whiteford Class in the home of John Bittner. The charter members were Mr. and Mrs. John Bittner, Mr. and Mrs. John G. Klump, and Mr. and Mrs. John Witmire. Services were held in the homes of the members and in the schoolhouses until 1881 when, under the ministry of Rev. W. A. Koehler, it was decided to build a church. Much credit for the success of the project is due to the liberality and business tact of the Brethren Bittner and Klump. The church was completed and dedicated December 18, 1881, Rev. William Yost, officiating. A glorious revival with 35 conversions followed the dedication.

During the pastorate of Rev. E. Willard, the church was remodeled and a fine basement constructed. The present church membership is 50. The Sunday-school enrollment is 137.

During 1941, a fine modern parsonage was erected beside the South Whiteford church. The cost was in excess of \$4,000.00, but was fully covered in cash and a small amount in subscriptions at the time of dedication. The parsonage will serve as the home for ministers of the Whiteford Circuit. Much credit is due the pastor, Rev. F. L. Pohly, and several individuals who gave large amounts toward the project, though the giving by both churches on the circuit was generous.

For many years Whiteford was served with other circuits. Since the Whiteford charge appeared in the records in 1880 the following have served as pastor: W. A. Koehler, 1880-81; J. W. Loose, 1881-82; W. A. Koehler, 1882-83; J. W. Loose, 1883-85; J. J. Bernhardt and N. Frye, 1885-86; W. Vogel, 1886-87; J. J. Schuknecht, 1887-88; D. P. Rumberger, 1888-89; supplied, 1889-90; W. C. Swenk, 1890-92; J. M. Nyce, 1892-94; George Koehler, 1894-96; W. F. Kring, 1896-97; G. G. Heximer, 1897-98; J. A. Swenk, 1898-99; A. M. Haddix, 1899-1901; O. P. Schleicher, 1901-02; George Brown, 1902-05; O. P. Schleicher, 1905-07; E. L. Marsh, 1907-10; D. W. Gamertsfelder, 1910-11; C. M. Early, 1911-12; E. B. Leisenring, 1912-15; L. Polmanteer, 1915-16; A. R. Kuehn, 1916-19; H. C. Heise, 1919-21; D. J. Feather, 1921-24; F. A. Hood, 1924-26; E. Willard, 1926-29; A. J. Hettler, 1929-31; W. M. Palmer, 1931-37; F. L. Pohly, 1937-.

South Whiteford—Silica Appointment

About 1865 the first Evangelical ministers visited the community centering about the Baker schoolhouse located on Central Avenue, several miles west of Toledo. Success attended their labors and a small class was organized.

In September, 1883, Rev. J. W. Loose took up an appointment at Silica, located not far from the Baker appointment. The work made progress and in December, 1883, a class of twelve members was organized at the home of Joseph Cunningham. The class was known as the South Sylvania Class. For several years the services were held in a schoolhouse. The work made progress and the Baker Class was merged with the South Sylvania class.

In 1895, under direction of the pastor, Rev. George Koehler, the erection of a new church was begun. Due to lack of funds the church was not completed until 1896 during the pastorate of Rev. W. F. Kring. The church was dedicated October 18, 1896, Bishop Breyfogel officiating.

Owing to blasting operations in a nearby stone quarry, the church was moved in 1913 to a new site. Due to defective wiring, the church was destroyed by fire, December 11, 1937. The church was immediately rebuilt under direction of Rev. F. L. Pohly, pastor, at a cost of \$6,000.00. The Brethren Myron and Gordon Everett have entered the ministry from this congregation. The present church membership is 33. The Sunday-school enrollment is 90.

The appointment has been served with South Whiteford since its beginning. See list of ministers who have served South Whiteford.

WHITEHOUSE

Whitehouse Appointment

During the year of 1862 a small band of German-speaking Christians living about two miles northeast of Whitehouse, not having a church home, began to meet at regular intervals in the various homes of the community for the worship of God. Shortly after this they came in contact with the Evangelical Church and arranged with one of the circuit riders from Michigan to preach for them every two weeks, services being in the German language. The cottage prayer meeting each week also served as a means of grace.

Many of the services were held in the Eber home, though other homes were often available. Later arrangements were made to use the Oak Grove schoolhouse where services were held for a period of five years. A successful revival in the year of 1865 gave further impetus to the work. By 1870 progress was such that arrangements were made to use the Union church in Whitehouse, though the build-

ing was already being used by the Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Protestant and Christian communions as a house of worship.

During the year of 1870 the first parsonage was built, Mr. Caspar Billing having donated the land for the site. The property was later known as the J. A. Koenigsecker property. Much material and labor was also donated in building the parsonage. Great devotion was shown by the people in attending the services of the church. Many came with lumber wagons drawn by horses, others on horseback and still others on foot over extremely muddy roads. But "the joy of the Lord was their strength."

March 2, 1891, the class was incorporated as the "Zion Church" of Whitehouse. At this time under the leadership of Rev. D. W. Schafer, the pastor, plans were made for the erection of a church. The present site was purchased and John Hollicker, Jacob Murbach, Harmon Hockman and D. W. Schafer were elected as a building committee. During the year the church was completed at a cost of approximately \$1,300.00. At this time German and English services were alternated. In 1897 German services were discontinued entirely.

In 1900, Rev. D. O. Ruth being the pastor, the old parsonage was sold and the present parsonage built beside the church at a cost of \$1,000.00. The first Young People's Alliance of Whitehouse Charge was organized at this time. In order to accommodate the people the church was enlarged and repaired during the year of 1900 at a cost of \$770.00.

Again in 1922, Rev. A. D. Burch being pastor, a basement was put under the church, a furnace installed, a balcony constructed and other improvements made. In 1937, under the leadership of Rev. N. C. Liesemer, a fully equipped bathroom was put in the parsonage. We now have a very satisfactory property, adequate to meet the needs of the congregation.

Previous to 1869 the Whitehouse appointment was connected with an adjoining charge. Beginning with 1869 Whitehouse appears in the conference records as a pastoral charge. Since that time the following have served the field as pastor: J. Borough, 1869-71; B. F. Wade, 1871-74; F. Mueller, 1874-75; D. P. Rumberger, 1875-77; J. Young, 1877-78; W. Simmons, 1878-80; A. Frye, 1880-82; R. Spatz, 1882-83; J. Schmaus, 1883-84; S. B. Hibbard, 1884-86; W. F. Vogel, 1886-87; J. J. Schuknecht, 1887-88; D. P. Rumberger, 1888-90; D. W. Schafer, 1890-92; W. C. Swenk, 1892-95; A. E. Bogen, 1895-96; D. P. Rumberger, 1896-98; J. Schmaus, 1898-99; D. O. Ruth, 1899-1901; J. H. Keeler, 1901-02; J. H. Ewing, 1902-05; C. J. Gurney, 1905-07; J. E. Holsaple, 1907-09; A. M. Haddix, 1909-11; E. S. Dutcher, 1911-13; W. H. Fairchild, 1913-15; S. Young, 1915-21; A. D. Burch, 1921-26; O. N. Braun, 1926-29; E. F. Bailey, 1929-31; F. L. Pohly, 1931-37; N. C. Liesemer, 1937-40; H. R. Krieg, 1940-.

Rev. G. C. Murbach and Allen Lewis entered the ministry from this field.

The present church membership is 98. The Sunday-school enrollment is 131.

Whitehouse—Salem

Sometime prior to the year of 1867 Elias Boyer moved from Pennsylvania into Providence Township, Lucas County, Ohio, locating about three miles south of Whitehouse. Being a member of the Evangelical Church in Pennsylvania he sought the services of an Evangelical minister in his new home. He invited Rev. J. Paulin and Rev. Rudolph Spatz, ministers of the Michigan Conference, to preach in the community. The first services were conducted in a schoolhouse about one mile west of the present Salem church. The services were attended largely by Lutherans, many of them had come from Switzerland. Because rowdies had damaged the school books during the services the congregation was refused further use of the school building. Services were then held in the home of Chris Disher.

A class was organized in the Disher home with the following as charter members: Frederick Richter, Daniel Schadle, Chris Disher, George Brown, Sr., Elias Boyer and Mrs. Needles.

About 1867 the class decided to build a church at the present site of the Salem church on land donated by Elias Boyer. Peter Emore constructed the foundation and laid the cornerstone. The church was erected and served until about 1927, when, under the ministry of Rev. O. N. Brown, a basement was built and the auditorium enlarged. This church has been served by ministers from the Whitehouse Circuit. See list of ministers who have served the Whitehouse church.

The present church membership is 35. The Sunday-school enrollment is 43.

Whitehouse—Wilkins

In the year of 1893 a group of people living in the community organized a Sunday school in a schoolhouse located at the Grub Oak Corners on the Midway pike. Rev. H. B. Geringer of Wauseon accepted an invitation to preach to the people. A class was organized with Mrs. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Hawkins, H. H. Boken, and Mrs. E. K. Hill as charter members. Rev. W. C. Swenk, pastor at Whitehouse, became the first pastor of the congregation which became known as the Paradise Class.

When the school district erected a new school building the congregation bought the old school building and remodeled it for a church.

In 1924, during the pastorate of Rev. A. D. Burch, the congregation relocated in the Wilkins community. A church edifice was erected upon land donated by Mr. Fred Munson. The new building was dedicated January 17, 1926, as the Wilkins Evangelical church,

Dr. E. G. Frye officiating. The society has struggled under a heavy debt which is being gradually liquidated. The church has always been served by the pastor of the Whitehouse Circuit.

The present church membership is 38, and the Sunday-school enrollment is 67.

WHITTAKER

The work in Whittaker was begun in the town hall in 1883 by Rev. A. J. Gramley, pastor of the Monroe Circuit. The class was organized a year later by Rev. J. H. Keeler. The church was built in 1889 under the pastorate of Rev. J. E. Holsaple and dedicated December 22d, by Rev. S. P. Spreng.

In 1902 a parsonage was purchased which served until 1923, when a fine new parsonage was erected.

In 1935, during the pastorate of Rev. W. S. Nelson, a fine basement was constructed under the church.

February 9, 1940, both church and parsonage were destroyed by fire, the result of defective wiring. Unfortunately the insurance on the church had lapsed and the parsonage was not adequately insured. This was a severe blow to the congregation. However, a new parsonage has been purchased and a new church is under construction.

The following have served the field as pastor: A. J. Gramley, 1883-86; J. H. Keeler, 1886-87; J. J. Bernhardt, 1887-88; P. Scheurer and W. F. Kring, 1888-89; J. E. Holsaple, 1889-90; A. Russell, 1890-91; D. W. Gamertsfelder, 1891-93; A. Ostroth, 1893-95; J. Schmaus, 1895-96; J. A. Swenk, 1896-98; E. M. Renner, 1898-1900; G. Heximer, 1900-03; J. J. Marshall, 1903-04; A. J. Hettler, 1904-06; H. A. Frye, 1906-08; W. H. Moyer, 1908-09; S. Ostroth, 1909-11; W. H. Bishop, 1911-12; George Murbach, 1912-14; Noel Ritchie, 1914-15; F. A. Hood, 1915-18; W. A. Shelly, 1918-22; W. H. Fowler, 1922-26; B. E. Belknap, 1926-31; W. H. Fairchild, 1931-34; W. S. Nelson, 1934-39; G. G. Wilkie, 1939-.

The present membership of the church is 61 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 102.

Whittaker—Seybert Class

The Seybert Class was organized by Rev. A. J. Gramley at about the same time that the Whittaker Class was organized, and was commonly known as the Locee Class. For several years the meetings were held in a church that was rented from the Primitive Methodists. This church was finally destroyed by fire, and the present church erected. It was dedicated to the service of God December 4, 1906, as the Seybert church, Rev. George Johnson officiating. The church is located in Augusta Township, Washtenaw County. Rev. H. A. Frye was the pastor at the time the church was erected.

The Seybert church has been served with the Whittaker church

since its beginning. The list of ministers who have served as pastors are found following the Whittaker sketch.

WYANDOTTE

The Riverbank Evangelical church had its beginning in March, 1918, as a Union Sunday school. The church organization was formed in December of the same year at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hardy on Riverbank Avenue. In May, 1919, an Evangelical Church organization was effected, with 25 charter members.

For more than a year the services were held in the homes of the people. In the summer of 1920 the present parsonage structure was erected under supervision of the Michigan Conference, the lot having been purchased by the conference during the preceding year. The building was dedicated by Bishop L. H. Seager in the fall of 1920 and from that time to the erection of the church building was used as a temporary church edifice.

At its annual session in 1925 the Michigan Conference authorized the building of the church. In spite of numerous problems which developed the church was completed and February 14, 1926, was dedicated by Dr. G. B. Kimmel. Since that time the history of the congregation has been that of a serious struggle for existence, at times the outlook being rather dark. For sometime progress has been recorded and the future appears much brighter.

The following pastors have served the Riverbank church: E. S. Faust, 1919-21 (Miss Mary Ledebuhr served as deaconess during this period); J. Riebel, 1921-22; L. F. Woodward, 1922-23; R. R. Brown, 1923-26; L. F. Burkey, 1926-27; W. Crothers, 1927-30; W. S. Nelson, 1930-32; C. G. Kaatz, 1932-35; H. R. Krieg, 1935-40; G. Knechtel, 1940-.

The present church membership is 77. The Sunday-school membership 184.

CHURCHES OF THE KALAMAZOO DISTRICT

BAINBRIDGE

The exact time and place of the organization is not known. Ministers from the Indiana Conference began work in the community as early as 1853. Rev. M. Eckhart of the above mentioned conference was serving in 1854. Until 1858 services were held in the homes of Peter Schmidtberger and Jacob Krieger, also Sunday afternoons in the Lutheran church. The first church was dedicated in January, 1859, by Bishop John Seybert. The first written record was left by Rev. A. Nicolai in 1861 saying that a church and parsonage had been erected. Bainbridge was originally a part of the Berrien Circuit. In 1866 the Bainbridge Circuit, consisting of Bainbridge, St. Joseph,

Royalton, Freidays, Keeler and Bangor, was formed. Later the circuit consisted of Bainbridge, Bangor and Keeler. At present Bainbridge is alone.

In 1885, under the pastorate of Rev. J. Miller, the society felt the need for a new and larger church building. The new church was completed and dedicated under the ministry of Rev. J. Orth. The dedication occurred October 17, 1886, and was conducted by Bishop R. Dubs.

During the pastorate of Rev. W. D. Hayes extensive improvements, including a well-equipped basement, a new electric light plant and the complete decoration of the auditorium, were consummated at a cost of \$2,600.00. The reopening services were conducted April 22, 1923, by Rev. E. W. Praetorius. During the pastorate of Rev. L. E. Burgess numerous items of equipment were added, including a piano, secretary desk, new hymnals, worker's library, bulletin board and other articles.

The present parsonage was erected during the pastorate of Rev. L. V. Soldan.

Bainbridge gave one worker to the mission field in the person of Rev. A. H. Butzbach, for many years missionary to China. Arduous labor and unfavorable climatic conditions undermined his health and in 1926 he passed to his reward.

The following have served this charge as pastors: M. Eckhart, R. Riegel, M. Krieger, J. Paulin, 1865-66; M. Alspach and M. Speck, 1866-67; M. Speck, 1867-68; J. Meck, 1868-70; C. Ude, 1870-73; S. Henne, 1873-74; A. Nicolai, 1874-75; Wm. Riemke and A. Frye, 1875-76; W. Riemke, 1876-77; D. W. Schaefer, 1877-79; J. Meck, 1879-82; H. Schneider, 1882-84; J. Miller, 1884-86; J. Orth, 1886-88; W. Berge, 1888-90; W. Berge and C. A. Bremer, 1890-91; J. Schmaus, 1891-94; C. C. Weber, 1894-95; J. Young, 1895-96; E. Rath, 1896-99; L. V. Soldan, 1899-1903; G. G. Heximer, 1903-04; G. G. Heximer and G. Knechtel, 1904-05; G. Knechtel, 1905-08; E. C. Braun, 1908-13; A. J. Hettler, 1913-16; Geo. Hall, 1916-18; E. L. Marsh, 1918-22; W. D. Hayes, 1922-25; L. E. Burgess, 1925-29; S. P. Kirn, 1929-33; G. Raduchel, 1933-.

The present membership of the church is 108. Sunday-school enrollment is 166.

BATTLE CREEK

In the fall of 1920 Rev. A. L. Bingaman came into Battle Creek under the supervision of Rev. W. C. Swenk, presiding elder of the Kalamazoo District. He canvassed many of the homes in this community and discovered sufficient people who would respond to Sunday-school and church attendance that the beginning of a church in this community was undertaken. In the spring of 1921 a tabernacle building was purchased from Camp Custer and erected on the corner

of Bidwell and Meachem. The building was dedicated August 7, 1921, with about twenty members.

Rev. L. J. Van Sickler was stationed at Battle Creek in 1921. In 1922 a fine new parsonage costing about \$8,000.00 was erected on the lot beside the church. The church made good progress and in the fall of 1925 the tabernacle was removed and work on the present church edifice begun. The cornerstone was laid November 15, 1925, under supervision of the presiding elder, Rev. H. I. Voelker. The new church was dedicated March 21, 1926, Bishop S. P. Spreng officiating. The cost of the new building left the society with a staggering debt. In the late twenties the Conference Branch W. M. S. accepted sponsorship for Battle Creek, raising a substantial amount on the debt annually. Due to a debt of \$63,677.23 and disturbances within the society the gloomy outlook culminated in an effort by the conference to sell the property in 1933. Not being able to effect a satisfactory sale the work was continued. Rev. J. W. Hill began his work at Battle Creek in 1933 and with the aid of the conference and the Conference Branch W. M. S. the congregation has reduced the debt to about \$2,500.00. The work has prospered greatly and the outlook is splendid.

The following have served the church as pastor: A. L. Bingaman, 1920-21; L. J. Van Sickler, 1921-26; G. A. Spitler, 1926-31; C. B. Westfall, 1931-33; J. W. Hill, 1933-.

The present membership is 226. The Sunday-school enrollment is 409.

BENTON HARBOR

In the year of 1903 Rev. E. G. Frye, then pastor in St. Joseph, began preaching in the G. A. R. Hall in Benton Harbor. Later Rev. F. Klump, presiding elder of the St. Joseph District, secured the district tent and arranged for a tent meeting in Benton Harbor. Rev. J. Wales, assisted by Rev. E. M. Renner, conducted the meeting. The tent, erected at the corner of East Main and Nowlen Streets, was demolished by a windstorm during the meeting. The services were transferred to the home of Mr. John Arndt on Thresher Avenue.

In October, 1903, ground was broken for a church building on the corner of Cass and Nowlen Streets. In 1904 the cornerstone was laid by Rev. S. P. Spreng, later bishop. In February, 1905, the church was dedicated by the late Bishop Wm. Horn. Rev. Wm. Berge, of blessed memory, preached the first sermon in the new church from 1 Corinthians 1:18 on Saturday evening prior to dedication Sunday. The following were charter members: Mr. and Mrs. J. Boylan, Mr.

and Mrs. Oliver Spaulding, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kniebes, Mrs. Sarah Seel and Charlotte Owen.

In 1905, Rev. J. S. Deabler was appointed pastor. The Millburg appointment was detached from the Bainbridge Circuit and attached to Benton Harbor. Under the leadership of Colonel Mayhue, of the Crusaders, a successful revival was held with numerous accessions.

Rev. E. M. Renner was appointed pastor in 1908. During his pastorate Brother Renner conducted several revivals. Special mention is made of those in which he was assisted by Rev. J. Kirn, of our own conference, and Rev. N. A. Clarkson, of Chicago, meetings which resulted in numerous conversions and accessions. The parsonage was built during Brother Renner's pastorate.

In 1912 Rev. C. H. Howe became pastor. The work continued to develop. During this pastorate successful meetings were held in the church by Evangelist C. A. Glass and Evangelist Bulkley and party. The Geo. Stevens evangelistic party conducted a successful meeting in St. Joseph for the twin cities. Substantial gains were realized from these meetings. The church was remodeled in 1914. This with paving taxes was a heavy financial burden on the society.

Rev. G. C. Murbach began a five-year pastorate in 1916. In January, 1920, a very successful revival was held under the leadership of Rev. and Mrs. R. J. Kiefer. Substantial membership gains were made during Brother Murbach's pastorate. In the winter of 1920-21 the basement was completed making several fine rooms available for the Sunday school.

In 1921, Rev. N. J. Swearingen was appointed pastor. Through his ministry the work was greatly strengthened. Successful evangelistic campaigns were waged under leadership of Revs. E. M. Kerlin, H. W. Link and C. A. Wilkie. The basement was further developed, a fine annex was built and the indebtedness decreased. Stricken with typhoid fever Brother Swearingen passed to his reward shortly before conference in 1926. Rev. E. R. Lantz, a student in the seminary, filled the vacancy until conference time.

Rev. A. C. Bauman was appointed pastor in 1926. During his pastorate the debt on the church was paid off, repairs made on church and parsonage, several very successful revival campaigns held and the church brought to the highest point in its history. A new church building is imperative.

The present membership of the church is 153. The Sunday-school enrollment is 217.

The following have served as pastor: E. G. Frye, 1903-05; J. S. Deabler, 1905-08; E. M. Renner, 1908-12; C. H. Howe, 1912-16; G. C. Murbach, 1916-21; N. J. Swearingen, 1921-26; A. C. Bauman, 1926-32; A. R. Kuehn, 1932-34; M. R. Everett, 1934-39; A. L. Bingaman, 1939-.

BUCHANAN

A goodly number of Evangelical families having moved from Portage Prairie and elsewhere to this community it was deemed advisable to organize a class and build a church in the village of Buchanan. An informal meeting was called March 10, 1888, to consider organization. Sentiment being favorable a formal meeting for organization was appointed for March 14, 1888, at the home of Wm. R. Rough. Rev. J. A. Frye, pastor of Portage Prairie, was present and took charge of the task of organization. W. R. Rough and wife, Wm. Conradt and wife, W. H. Chubb and wife, I. Schriber and wife, Henry Imhoff and wife, Jacob Imhoff, Abraham Broceus and Jacob Housewerth became charter members of the society. The following officers were elected: Class leader, Wm. Conradt; exhorter, W. H. Chubb; Sunday-school superintendent, Delia Scott; steward pro tem, H. Imhoff; representative of the trustee board, Wm. R. Rough. Preparations were at once made for the erection of a church. A meeting was held at Rough Brothers' office March 20, 1888, for the election of trustees and to incorporate the society according to the laws of the state. W. R. Rough, J. Imhoff and Wm. Conradt were elected trustees. W. R. Rough, J. Imhoff, D. Spreng, Wm. Conradt, J. Housewerth and J. A. Frye were elected as building committee. March 28, 1888, a lot was purchased at the corner of Oak and First Streets, for a church site at a cost of \$450.00. At the conference in 1888 Rev. F. Koehler was appointed pastor under the supervision of Rev. J. A. Frye, pastor at Portage Prairie. Regular preaching services and a Sunday school were conducted in Rough Brothers' Hall until the completion of the church.

A fine brick edifice was erected on the new site, the auditorium being 38 x 60 feet with pulpit recess and the chapel room 18 x 30 feet, opening, with folding doors, into the main auditorium. This substantial, fireproof church was dedicated November 11, 1888, by Bishop Thomas Bowman. The total cost of the church and furniture was \$7,000.00 and was dedicated free of debt. It is noteworthy that the society was organized, the church built and paid for in a period of eight months. In 1889, Rev. J. A. Frye became pastor. During this year a parsonage was purchased, the church membership increased to 59 and the Sunday school to an enrollment of 140.

Riverside Park camp meeting was established and the first regularly organized Young People's Alliance in Michigan was organized at Buchanan during the pastorate of Rev. F. Klump, 1890 to 1893. Progress has continued under the ministry of the able pastors that have followed. During the pastorate of Rev. F. C. Berger the Wagner schoolhouse was served as an afternoon appointment. During the

seven-year pastorate of Rev. E. D. Riebel a new parsonage was purchased and the work greatly strengthened.

The following pastors have served this field: F. Koehler, 1888-89; J. A. Frye, 1889-90; F. Klump, 1890-93 (Rev. L. Brumm served the latter half of the year 1892-93); Geo. Johnson, 1893-95; F. C. Berger, 1895-99; J. R. Niergarth, 1899-1903; J. A. Halmhuber, 1903-07; H. I. Voelker, 1907-09; W. H. Watson, 1909-13; F. E. Armstrong, 1913-14; H. A. Frye, 1914-16; G. A. Spitler, 1916-17; E. D. Riebel, 1917-24; O. N. Braun, 1924-26; W. H. Camfield, 1926-29; W. D. Hayes, 1929-31; W. F. Boettcher, 1931-35; C. A. Sanders, 1935-40; N. W. Klump, 1940-.

Buchanan entertained the Annual Conference in 1895 and in 1904. W. H. Fowler, W. N. Nutt and Clifford Likes have gone from this congregation into the ministry.

The membership of the church is 207. Sunday-school enrollment is 246.

CLOVERDALE

The Cloverdale church was organized in the year of 1889, Rev. J. M. Nyce being the minister. Previous to the building of the church the services were held in the Hope Center schoolhouse, the appointment being a part of the Hope Mission. The cost of the church was \$1,300.00. A debt of \$374.50 of which \$342.75 was covered by subscriptions remained at the time of the dedication in December, 1889.

In 1891, the conference changed the name of the charge from Hope Mission to Maple Grove Mission. In 1931 the Maple Grove Mission was divided, the Cloverdale and Schultz appointments being constituted the Cloverdale Mission. For several years the Schultz church has been closed.

The present parsonage was built in 1897-98 during the pastorate of Rev. J. E. Holsaple.

The following have served Cloverdale as pastors: J. M. Nyce, 1889-92; H. Spitler, 1892-95; A. Frye, 1895-96; J. E. Holsaple, 1896-98; Geo. Brown, 1898-1900; F. H. Bailey, 1900-02; F. Koehler, 1902-04; D. J. Feather, 1904-05; J. J. Marshall, 1905-06; E. M. Renner, 1906-07; S. C. Croff, 1907-09; A. J. Hettler, 1909-11; D. W. Gamertsfelder, 1911-12; C. J. Gurney, 1912-15; W. H. Fairchild, 1915-17; E. A. Perone, 1917-19; G. B. Baldwin, 1919-20; F. H. Horn, 1920-21; B. E. Belknap, 1921-23 (F. H. Horn was assistant for 1922-23); A. Ostroth and W. Gottesleben, 1923-25; W. N. Nutt and A. Ostroth, 1925-29; W. N. Nutt and E. F. Rhoades, 1929-30; G. Holtz, 1930-34; D. R. Kring, 1934-36; S. C. Walton, 1936-40; T. A. Moyer, 1940-.

The present membership of the church is 37. The Sunday-school enrollment is 55.

EAST GILEAD

This society was organized at East Gilead, Branch County, Michigan, in 1860 by Rev. F. Snively, who was at that time pastor on

DeKalb Mission, Indiana Conference. There were twelve charter members, the names of C. S. Brown, Jacob Doerr and Josiah Snyder appearing in the list. At first the services were held in the homes of the members. The first church was an old schoolhouse remodeled. As this building was not large enough to hold the crowds at quarterly meeting time a new barn being built by Josiah Snyder was used for the Sunday services on this occasion. It is reported that a "most powerful" meeting was held on this quarterly meeting occasion.

The circuit was large, taking the pastor from home often as much as three weeks at a time. Most of the traveling was done on horseback. The salary was small and much of it was paid in foodstuffs given by the members. Grandfather Rubley's contribution of \$2.00 per year was as large as any annual contribution from the membership of the church. About 1867 the present church building was erected. The land was given by John Smith. The timbers and lumber by Tommy Davis and Mr. Carpenter, the hauling being done with David Rubley's yoke of oxen. Later additions and improvements were made on the church building, a tower and vestibule being built about 1881. In 1908 the interior was remodeled and a pulpit alcove built on the south side. In 1912 the basement was constructed.

In the earlier days the services were all in German. Practically the whole community was in the membership of the church. At one time the circuit extended from Wauseon, Ohio, to Vicksburg, Michigan, a distance of 80 miles. In 1923 East Gilead was taken from Fremont Circuit and made a mission and for several years was served alone. Since 1932 the church has been served from Fremont.

The name of Rev. Chandler Brown is indelibly written upon the pages of the history of the East Gilead congregation. Recommended from this congregation for the ministry, he served the field several times as pastor and spent periods of retirement on a farm in this community. He was a tower of strength for this church.

The present membership of the church is 49.

So far as we are able to learn the following have served this church as pastor: Rev. P. Schwilly, Rev. F. Snively, G. Hartle, M. Alspach, J. Borough, S. Copley, 1867; D. C. Rohland and B. F. Wade, 1868; B. F. Wade and J. Rood, 1869; C. S. Brown and J. Rood, 1870; C. S. Brown and D. C. Rohland, 1871; C. Thomas, 1872; E. K. DeWitt, 1873; E. B. Miller, 1874; R. Riegel, 1876; J. A. Frye, 1877; C. S. Brown, 1879-82; J. Drinkwater, 1882-83; Washington White, 1883, six months; C. B. Brown, 1883, six months; D. P. Rumberger, 1884-86; H. T. Strauch, 1886-87; J. D. Baker, 1887-88; J. C. Dietrick, 1888-89; J. Schmaus, 1889-91; C. S. Brown, 1891-92; Noah Frye, 1892-95; A. M. Haddix, 1895-97; A. Ostroth, 1897-1901; W. H. Wagner, 1901-03; E. M. Renner, 1903-06; Warren Brown, 1906-08; Chas. Richards, 1908-13; G. Raduchel, 1913-15; O. P. Schleicher, 1915-19; O. N. Braun, 1919-23; L. E. Burgess, 1923-25; Philip Thomas, 1925-26; Glen Ball,

1926-27; Rex. Lahr, 1927-28; E. L. Marsh, 1928-29; G. H. Simpson, 1929-32; L. E. Manore, 1932-33; A. D. Burch, 1933-41; John S. Clayton, 1941-.

MARSHALL—(ELLIS CORNERS)

Calhoun Mission was the name by which our entire Evangelical work in Calhoun and Ionia Counties was first known. The mission was organized by the Indiana Conference in 1858 or 1859. In 1859 Rev. M. Krueger, the first missionary, came upon the work. May 22, 1859, he preached his first sermon in Marshall to 8 or 10 persons. The first quarterly conference was held in Woodland, Ionia County, June 16, 1860. In 1868 the mission was changed into a circuit known as Marshall Circuit.

There is an early record of seven classes as follows, one in Marshall, four in Eckford Township, one in Fredonia and one in Ceresco. In 1884 the four classes in Eckford were consolidated. The work in Eckford was discontinued in 1897 by Rev. W. H. Wagner. In 1882 the appointments Charlesworth, Seegers and Brookfield of the Lansing Mission were attached to Marshall Circuit. In 1883 the same appointments were detached and placed with Rives. In 1895 Litchfield Mission was attached to Marshall. By 1903 there were but two appointments on the circuit, Marshall and Ellis Corners. In 1908 the work in Marshall was closed and appointments north of Marshall and at Eckford Station taken up. In 1910 the work in Marshall was taken up again to be dropped permanently in 1910. In 1920 work was begun at North Fredonia but was dropped in 1922. In 1925 the Ellis Corners church was federated with the Newton M. E. church and was served in that manner for several years.

In 1882 a church was built in Marshall, G. A. Hettler being the pastor. The parsonage was built in 1892 during the pastorate of A. Frye. In 1913 the parsonage and church lot at Marshall was sold, the church building having been torn down and moved to Gladwin, now known as the Riley church on the Gladwin Charge. July 5, 1913, the large Ellis Corners church was burned, being struck by lightning. The present structure was then erected being dedicated in 1914. Information is not available as to the time when the various classes were organized nor when the church was built at Ceresco.

The following have served this field as pastor: M. Krueger, C. Ude, 1865-66; R. Riegel, 1866-68; E. B. Miller, 1868-69; C. Thomas and W. Riemke, 1869-70; J. M. Haug, 1870-71; J. M. Haug and L. Brumm, 1871-72; J. M. Haug, 1872-73; M. J. Miller, 1873-74; J. W. Loose, 1874-75; L. Kemmerling and P. Bittner, 1875-76; L. Kemmerling, 1876-78; J. H. Keeler, 1878-80; B. F. Wade, 1880-81; J. Frankhauser, 1881-82; G. A. Hettler, 1882-84; S. Henne, 1884-86; J. Schmaus, 1886-89; J. C. Dietrich, 1889-90; H. Spitler and G. Heximer, 1890-92; A. Frye, 1892-95; S. Copley and E. Scott, 1895-96; W. H. Wagner and W. B. Oldt, 1896-97; W. H. Wagner and R. N. Holsaple,

1897-98; W. H. Wagner, 1898-1900; Clifford Miller, 1900-01; J. E. Holsaple, 1901-03; W. H. Camfield, 1903-07; J. Kirn, 1907-08; C. A. Wilkie, 1908-09; F. Yearnd, 1909-10; C. M. Early, 1910-11; Supplied, 1911-12; F. L. Pohly, 1912-14; J. Wales, 1914-15; Noel Ritchey, 1915-16; H. A. Decker, 1916-20; G. B. Baldwin, 1920-21; G. E. Klopfenstein, 1921-24; M. H. Willard, 1924-25; R. J. Striffler, 1925, three months; G. C. Lockwood, 1925-27; L. Rigelman, 1927-30; H. Ryan, 1930-32; W. Harper, 1932-33; closed, 1933-38; J. E. Norton, 1938-.

The membership of the church is 31 and the Sunday-school enrollment 50.

EUREKA

County Line (Salem)

For the beginning of the work in the County Line community we must go back to the early sixties when certain families immigrated from Ohio to this community. It is reported that as early as 1865 a class was organized which was served from Owosso by ministers who came once in every six or eight weeks. The original class may have been discontinued, for another report indicates that a class was organized May 3, 1893, with nine members. In 1891, under the ministry of Rev. A. Ostroth, a church was erected. This building was destroyed by fire about 1922 and was rebuilt by Rev. W. Gottesleben. The present church membership is 18 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 41.

Eureka

It is believed that the work in Eureka began under the ministry of Rev. A. Frye about 1878. Under the ministry of Rev. P. Scheurer the present church edifice was erected. The society experienced an unusual revival during the ministry of Rev. A. Ostroth. The present church membership is 19. The Sunday-school enrollment is 67.

Fulton (Zion)

The Fulton appointment had its beginning during the ministry of Rev. P. Scheurer about 1884 or 1885. Brother Scheurer began preaching in and about Bridgeville at that time. As the result of a revival held in the old hall a class of twelve members was organized, Chas. McComber being the first member and class leader. In 1891, during the ministry of Rev. A. Ostroth a sweeping revival, with 70 conversions, was held in the same hall. The hall was purchased, torn down and built into a new church which was dedicated in December, 1892, Rev. S. P. Spreng, later bishop, officiating. During that year the Sunday school was organized with George Osborn as the first superintendent. The present church membership is 45 and the Sunday-school enrollment 62.

Eureka Circuit

Appointments in the Eureka community were for several years served from Owosso. In 1878 the field appears as a separate charge known as the Greenbush Mission, Rev. A. Frye being the pastor. In 1883 the name of the circuit was changed to Eureka, which name has been carried since that time.

Since 1878 the following have served as pastor: A. Frye, 1878-79; supply, 1879-80; A. A. Scheurer, 1880-82; D. P. Rumberger, 1882-84; P. Scheurer, 1884-87; H. Spittler, 1887-89; G. J. Kirn, 1889-90; A. Ostroth, 1890-93; W. A. Koehler, 1893-94; F. Koehler, 1894-95; P. Scheurer, 1895-97; W. Clemens, 1897-98; F. J. Feather, 1898-1900; Geo. Brown, 1900-02; F. H. Bailey, 1902-05 (F. N. Schleicher as assistant in 1904-05); A. M. Haddix, 1905-07; J. J. Marshall, 1907-09; D. J. Feather, 1909-10; to be supplied, 1910; C. W. Lyman, 1911-13; E. Willard, 1913-14; B. E. Belknap, 1914-18; G. H. Simpson, 1918-20; W. E. Gottesleben, 1920-22; C. B. Greenman, 1922-23; G. E. Hall, 1923-25; W. F. Kring, 1925-27; L. E. Manore, 1927-30; F. F. Maneval, 1930-34; Geo. Holtz, 1934-36; W. Gumser, 1936-40; R. H. Kretschmer, 1940-.

FREMONT

The society is located in Fremont, Indiana, and is the outgrowth of five classes which had their origin in the pioneering of such men as M. Alspach, F. Snively and others. Originally this class belonged to the Indiana Conference, being placed with East Gilead in the Michigan Conference at the time of its organization in 1865. The work was begun in Fremont in 1858 by Rev. M. Alspach (then serving DeKalb Mission, Indiana Conference), with eight members. For some fifteen years the services were held in the home of Frederick Straw, whose grandson, Albert Straw, and great-grandchildren are still members of the congregation. In fact it was largely a "family affair" as witness the following names from the original membership roll: Frederick Straw, Mrs. Frederick Straw, Elizabeth and Elias Straw, daughter and son of the above, Mrs. Elias Straw, Mrs. B. F. Wade, daughter of Frederick Straw, B. F. Wade and Mary Friday. In 1873 the old Methodist church was purchased, repaired and dedicated as an Evangelical church. By 1880 the class had grown to a membership of 50 with a prosperous Sunday school. The present church building was erected in 1899 under the ministry of Rev. A. Ostroth. Its present estimated value is \$4,500.00. The parsonage property valued at \$1,800.00 was also purchased during Brother Ostroth's ministry. At one time part of a circuit of five appointments, Fremont is now served with East Gilead and has a present membership of 70. The membership for the circuit fluctuated over the years. Beginning with eight members in 1858 it rose to 150 in 1882, dropped to 88 in 1887 and rose again to 204 in 1900, the highest point in its history so far as we know.

B. F. Wade, D. C. Ostroth, C. B. Stroh and E. G. Johnson entered the ministry from this church.

The following pastors have served this work since its beginning: M. Alspach and G. Hartle, 1858; Rev. Gneisel, 1858-?; S. Copley, 1867; D. C. Rohland and B. F. Wade, 1868; B. F. Wade and J. Rood, 1869; C. S. Brown and J. Rood, 1870; C. S. Brown and D. C. Rohland, 1871; C. Thomas, 1872; E. K. DeWitt, 1873; E. B. Miller, 1874; R. Riegel, 1876; J. A. Frye, 1877; C. S. Brown, 1879-82; J. Drinkwater, 1882; Washington White, 1883, six months; C. S. Brown, 1883, six months; D. P. Rumberger, 1884-86; H. T. Strauch, 1886-87; J. D. Baker, 1887-88; J. C. Dietrich, 1888-89; J. Schmaus, 1889-91; C. S. Brown, 1891-92; Noah Frye, 1892-95; A. M. Haddix, 1895-97; A. Ostroth, 1897-1901; W. H. Wagner, 1901-03; E. M. Renner, 1903-06; Warren Brown, 1906-08; Chas. Richards, 1908-13; G. Raduchel, 1913-15; O. P. Schleicher, 1915-19; O. N. Braun, 1919-24; W. T. Bandeen, 1924-27; S. P. Kirn, 1927-29; A. Ostroth, 1929-30; L. E. Manore, 1930-33; A. D. Burch, 1933-41; John S. Clayton, 1941-.

GRAND RAPIDS FIRST CHURCH

The work which resulted in the organization of the First church began about 1881 when C. Ude, pastor of Caledonia Mission, began preaching here. The conference in 1882 voted that Grand Rapids should be taken up as a mission and supplied with a pastor. The name of the minister who served for that year is not reported. In 1883 the appointment was again to be supplied. June 1, 1883, Rev. H. Schuknecht, serving as pastor, organized the class. Four months later Rev. John Miller was appointed as pastor. In 1884 Rev. L. V. Soldan was appointed pastor and the building of the church was undertaken. The cornerstone was laid August 3, 1884. The church was dedicated October 19, 1884, Bishop T. Bowman officiating. The cost of the building was \$2,800.00.

In 1920 a parsonage was purchased, Rev. C. A. Glass being the pastor. In 1925 this property was sold and a more adequate building purchased at a cost of \$6,000.00.

The following have served as pastor: C. Ude, H. Schuknecht, John Miller, L. V. Soldan, 1884-85; N. Wunderlich, 1885-87; H. Schneider, 1887-90; C. C. Weber, 1890-September, 1891; H. Huelster, September, 1891-93; F. W. Dill, 1893-94; J. J. Schuknecht, 1894-98; E. G. Frye, 1898-1900; H. A. Decker, 1900-01; W. L. Martin, 1901-05; C. B. Stroh, 1905-10; D. O. Ruth, 1910-11; F. E. Armstrong, 1911-13; W. H. Watson, 1913-18; Geo. Koehler, 1918, three months; C. A. Glass, September, 1918-20; C. H. Howe, 1920-23; H. Stressman, 1923-26; E. R. Lantz, 1926-30; A. C. DeVries, 1930-36; A. L. Bingaman, 1936-39; M. R. Everett, 1939-41; G. A. Spitler, 1941-.

The present membership is 130. The Sunday-school enrollment is 140.

GRAND RAPIDS (GRIGGS STREET)

The Griggs Street Evangelical church (formerly known as Grand Rapids, Second church) was organized May 15, 1907, under the ministry of Rev. J. Wales. The organization took place at the home of S. J. Weber, 961 Rose Street, S. W. The officers elected were: Class leader, Henry Kunz; stewards, Henry Kantz and Mrs. Henry Kunz; superintendent of the Sunday school, Mrs. J. Wales; trustees, S. J. Weber, Theo. Hutt and Henry Kunz.

Steps were taken immediately after organization to secure a church home. A supervising committee consisting of Rev. G. A. Hettler, Presiding elder; Rev. J. Wales, pastor, and Rev. C. B. Stroh, pastor of First church, was appointed. A lot was secured on the corner of Griggs and Horton Avenue. Plans were drawn and building begun, Theo. Hutt serving as contractor. The cornerstone was laid September 29, 1907, by Rev. G. A. Hettler, presiding elder. The address for the occasion was delivered by Rev. J. R. Niergarth. The building was dedicated February 16, 1908, Bishop S. P. Spreng officiating.

Growth in the Sunday school made it necessary to complete the basement in 1921.

The parsonage was erected during 1908 during the pastorate of Rev. E. G. Frye.

Under the faithful ministry of the pastors of this church progress was made to the point where under the pastorate of Rev. C. B. Westfall a more adequate building seemed necessary. In 1927 the church, at its own request, was taken from the list of missions and made a station. During the same year steps were taken toward the building of a new church. March 18, 1928, the last service was held in the old church. The old building was razed, the parsonage moved to a new location and work begun on the new church edifice. During the period of construction the Burton Heights Baptist church very kindly tendered the use of their church for our services.

The cornerstone of the new building was laid May 13, 1928. Dr. Paul E. Keen, of Naperville, Ill., delivered the address, the stone being laid by Rev. H. I. Voelker, presiding elder. This fine building was completed and dedicated unto the Lord November 18, 1928, Rev. G. E. Epp, Cleveland, Ohio, officiating. This important event occurred a little more than 21 years after the organizing of the society. This achievement is a high tribute to the leadership of the pastor, Rev. C. B. Westfall, and the devotion of the members of the congregation. A generous meed of praise goes to Rev. J. Wales, the founder of this mission and pastor during the building of the first church.

The following pastors have served this field: J. Wales, 1907-08; E. G. Frye, 1908-11; D. O. Ruth, 1911-14; C. F. Smith, 1914-18; C. H. Howe, 1918-20; L. E. Chamberlain, 1920-24; A. R. Kuehn, 1924-25; C. B. Westfall, 1925-31; R. R. Brown, 1931-39; L. F. Woodward, 1939-.

The present membership is 353. The Sunday-school enrollment is 390.

IONIA

A careful study of all available records would indicate that the work began in Ionia about 1858. It is recorded that Rev. M. Krueger, appointed to Calhoun Mission in 1858, by the Indiana Conference, preached in Eckford, Fredonia, near Springport, and Brother Seger's, Charlotte, Woodland, and from there to Ionia. Among the four societies organized by him in 1858 was the one at Ionia. In 1862 Ionia appears as a circuit with J. Trometer as the pastor. In 1863 Trometer was reappointed with a colleague. With the organization of the Michigan Conference in 1864, M. Speck was appointed to Ionia. The present church edifice was erected under the ministry of Henry Schneider about the year of 1885.

In 1905 a substantial ten-room parsonage was purchased during the ministry of Rev. W. R. Currier. In 1938 Mrs. Sophia Morgenthauer willed her comfortable home with its furnishings to the congregation for use as a parsonage. This was a suitable climax to her many generous gifts to the Ionia church. The present valuation of our church property at Ionia is as follows: Church, \$15,000.00; parsonage, \$5,000.00. Originally the work was carried on in the German language. For many years the English language has been used exclusively.

The following have served as pastor: J. Trometer, 1862-64; M. Speck, 1864-65; M. Speck and J. M. Fuchs, 1865-66; J. Meck, 1866-67; J. Meck and J. Orth, 1867-68; S. Henne, 1868-70; W. Riemke, 1870-72; F. Schweitzer, 1872-75; J. G. Haller, Sr., 1875-76; C. Ude, 1876-78; F. Mueller, 1878-81; Peter Bittner, 1881-83; F. Klump, 1883-84; Henry Schneider, 1884-87; J. G. Haller, Jr., 1887-90; J. J. Schuknecht, 1890-91; N. Frye, 1891-92; C. C. Weber, 1892-94; C. C. Staffeld, 1894-97; George Koehler, 1897-1900; E. G. Frye, 1900-05; W. R. Currier, 1905-07; J. R. Niergarth, 1907-10; D. C. Ostroth, 1910-13; C. W. Lyman, 1913-15; C. F. Giese, 1915-16; J. S. Deabler, 1916-20; H. Stressman, 1920-23; B. Mohr, 1923-26; W. F. Boettcher, 1926-31; A. L. Bingaman, 1931-36; A. C. DeVries, 1936-41; A. R. Kuehn, 1941-.

The present membership of the church is 160. The Sunday-school enrollment is 234.

JACKSON (GREENWOOD PARK)

At the annual session of the Michigan Conference in the spring of 1874, Rev. S. Heininger, then a young man, was appointed as a

missionary to Jackson. Arriving in the city April 21, 1874, the first service was held May 17th in a hall located on Main Street. Efforts to secure a German congregation having failed the service was conducted in the English language. The following week a lot on East Wesley Street was secured and the chapel of the Freewill Baptist Society purchased. This building was moved to the new site and dedicated August 2d as the Emmanuel church of the Evangelical Association. This chapel was used until 1888 when it was remodeled and enlarged under the pastorate of Rev. F. C. Berger.

The first Sunday school was organized June 21, 1874, with eight members present, Curtis B. Simmons being elected superintendent. November 1, 1874, the class was organized with 11 charter members. By April, 1875, the membership numbered 53. Rev. S. Heininger served this society three times as pastor, the first time one year, the second two years and the third time for nine months only, being elected by the General Conference as corresponding secretary of the Missionary Society. His first and second pastorates were successful efforts to save the mission from dissolution.

The mission grew until in 1888 under the pastorate of Rev. F. C. Berger the church was enlarged by moving the chapel back and building a new auditorium in front. This building was dedicated September 2, 1888, by Bishop T. Bowman. Progress continued until in 1910, under the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Camfield, it became necessary to once more seek larger quarters. The present site on the corner of Greenwood Place and Wilkins Street was secured and plans for building prepared. Due to the time limit Brother Camfield was not permitted to carry through the project. Rev. W. C. Swenk was appointed as pastor and under his leadership the building was erected. The cornerstone was laid August 11, 1912, and the building dedicated February 16, 1913, Bishop Breyfogel officiating. The change of location with the new building has meant much to the progress of this congregation. During the pastorate of Rev. C. A. Wilkie a parsonage was purchased, the church debt paid and the congregation placed on the list of self-supporting stations. Under the pastorate of Rev. G. A. Spitler the steam heating plant was installed and other improvements made.

The following pastors have served this church: S. Heininger, 1874-75; J. H. Keeler, 1875-76; J. W. Loose, 1876-79; S. Heininger, 1879-81; G. A. Hettler, 1881-82; A. J. Gramley, 1882-83; S. Heininger, 1883, nine months; L. Kemmerling, three months; J. A. Frye, 1884-86; F. C. Berger, 1886-89; W. H. Wagner, 1889-91; Geo. Johnson, 1891-93; G. J. Kirn, 1893-96; S. Copley, 1896-97; A. A. Scheurer, 1897-1900; P. Scheurer, 1900-04; W. F. Kring, 1904-07; W. H. Camfield, 1907-12; W. C. Swenk, 1912-15; C. A. Wilkie, 1915-20; J. S. Deabler, 1920-22; G. A. Spitler, 1922-26; H. Stress-

man, 1926-30; W. T. Bandeen, 1930-33; C. B. Westfall, 1933-41; M. R. Everett, 1941-.

The name of C. B. Simmons stands out among the members of the early day as one who was a tower of strength to the pastors of the church. The present membership is 168. The Sunday-school enrollment is 150.

JACKSON (FRANCIS STREET MISSION)

Francis Street Appointment

In the fall of 1920 Rev. J. S. Deabler, pastor of the Greenwood Park church, and W. C. Swenk, presiding elder, made a canvass of the south side of the city of Jackson and found no other denomination at work in this growing section of the city. The Conference Supervising Committee was called, the location of a mission approved and the present site secured November 9, 1920. A large dwelling on the lot was first used for the services. Rev. L. E. Burgess was appointed to the field and after some weeks of canvassing the community the first session of the Sunday school was held January 9, 1921, 59 being present.

As the school grew beyond the capacity of the parsonage a temporary building was erected beside the parsonage. This structure was dedicated July 31, 1921, by Prof. J. S. Stamm (now bishop). During the pastorate of Rev. A. A. Weinert numerous improvements were made on the parsonage and church, chief of which was a basement under the church. During the pastorate of Rev. H. E. Spade extensive improvements were made, including a new floor in the church and the redecorating of the auditorium. Under the direction of G. D. Everett, the property has been greatly improved, including landscaping the lawn and redecorating and painting the church and parsonage. The present outlook is encouraging.

The following have served the church as pastor: L. E. Burgess, November, 1920-23; S. Fracker, 1923-24; A. A. Weinert, 1924-29; W. H. Camfield, 1929-30; H. E. Spade, 1930-33; G. D. Everett, 1933-41; C. S. Harrington, 1941-.

The church membership is 60. The Sunday-school enrollment 109.

Zion (Rives) Appointment

Early records of the Zion church have been lost so that facts relating to the beginning of the work are not available. In 1895 this appointment was a part of the Rives Mission, there being other appointments. During that year, under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. J. J. Marshall, plans were made for the erection of the church.

The present site was secured from Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Henry and a building committee consisting of J. J. Marshall, J. Trumble, M. E. Henry and Silas Miller, was appointed. Wallace Davis gave trees for the lumber. The trees were cut and lumber sawed by volunteer labor from the community. The Earnest Workers (Ladies' Aid), a new organization, bought chairs, carpet and gave \$417.65 to the church project. The bell came from the Litchfield church.

The church was dedicated September 1, 1895, by W. A. Koehler, who preached to a capacity audience. During the year of 1896 the three appointments—Allen, Cole and South Rives—were united in one society to worship in the new church. In 1897, by action of conference, the Rives Mission was discontinued and the appointments attached to Jackson. The debt on the church was finally paid in 1900.

During the pastorate of Rev. C. A. Wilkie an addition was built over the basement steps, a wood floor laid in the basement, the church reroofed, a new furnace installed, a lighting plant installed, a new piano purchased, the basement painted and the auditorium papered. New cement steps were built as a contribution from Mr. Schwab.

In 1921 the Zion appointment was placed with the newly organized Francis Street Mission with which it has been served since that time. During the ministry of G. D. Everett extensive repairs and improvements have been made, including a new roof, a new furnace, electric lights, a cement floor in the basement and painting and redecorating.

The following have served as pastor: J. J. Marshall, 1894 to 1896; M. A. Oldt, 1896-97; A. A. Scheurer, 1897-1900; P. Scheurer, 1900-04; W. F. Kring, 1904-07; W. H. Camfield, 1907-12; W. C. Swenk, 1912-15; C. A. Wilkie, 1915-20; J. S. Deabler, 1920-21; L. E. Burgess, 1921-23; S. Fracker, 1923-24; A. A. Weinert, 1924-29; W. H. Camfield, 1929-30; H. E. Spade, 1930-33; G. D. Everett, 1933-41; C. S. Harrington, 1941-.

The church membership is 42. The Sunday-school enrollment 57.

KALAMAZOO

In August, 1912, the Spade Brothers moved their manufacturing plant from Vicksburg to Kalamazoo. Accompanying them were a number of employees who with their families were members of the Evangelical Church. In February, 1913, a group of twelve persons, including the presiding elder, Rev. Geo. Koehler, met in the home of Henry Spade to discuss the establishing of a new mission in Kalamazoo. Considerable enthusiasm was manifested, a suitable community was available and the matter was taken to the Annual Conference.

The first Sunday-school session was held in March, 1913, in the home of Henry Spade. In April, 1913, Rev. Charles Richards was stationed at Kalamazoo. Immediately after conference work was be-

gun on a tabernacle, a frame building 40 x 70 feet, Mr. Wm. Schwartz being the contractor. Much of the work was done by volunteer labor. The tabernacle was located near the corner of Lay Boluevard and March Street. The first service was held in the tabernacle July 6, 1913, with between 20 and 30 present. The Rally Day, September 28, 1913, had 125 in Sunday school. An evangelistic service followed with conversions and accessions that brought the church membership to 28.

In April, 1914, work on the church building was begun and was completed in time for dedication December 20, 1914. At this time the average attendance in the Sunday school had reached 125.

The charter members of the church were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Schwartz, Mr. and Mrs. Hartman, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Byrd, Mrs. Sweetman and Jessie Sweetman, Mrs. Nora Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spade and Mr. and Mrs. Hebert Spade.

Shortly after the building of the church a parsonage was erected. In 1928 the conference erected a house for the superintendent of the Kalamazoo District across the street from the church.

The congregation has grown to a point where the present membership is 210 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 349. The outlook for the future is encouraging.

The following have served the church as pastor for the period indicated: Charles Richards, 1913-16; H. I. Voelker, 1916-20; F. W. Kirn, 1920-25; F. E. Putnam, 1925-29; L. E. Burgess, 1929-34; L. E. Willoughby, 1934-37; W. T. Bandeen, 1937-41; L. S. Scheifele, 1941-.

LANSING

During the year of 1915 Rev. W. H. Wagner was not under appointment in the conference. Living in Lansing and with the spirit of a missionary, he contacted several Evangelical families living in the city. Several meetings were held and much interest shown. At the 1916 conference session Brother Wagner presented an encouraging report and a petition from several Evangelical families asking that the conference establish a mission in Lansing.

Considerable enthusiasm was manifested on the part of the conference, several pledged substantial sums to assist in financing the project and the conference voted to "locate a mission in Lansing," and further voted to make the Lansing Mission a part of the St. Joseph District. Rev. J. R. Niergarth, presiding elder of the district, was given supervision of the project.

September 12, 1916, Brother Niergarth presided over a meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Daferner where, after extended discussion, it was unanimously voted to organize a mission. "The

First church of the Evangelical Association" was the name adopted and E. F. Berger, W. F. Daferner and C. Gascho were elected the first board of trustees.

November 21, 1916, the Conference Supervising Committee purchased a site on the corner of South Washington Avenue and Elm Street. Rev. H. W. Link was appointed as the first pastor and took charge of the work January 2, 1917. A temporary tabernacle was erected and formally opened Sunday, January 21, 1917. The mission prospered and at the 1917 conference session a membership of twenty-two and a Sunday school of forty-four were reported.

The tabernacle being inadequate to meet the growing needs the Conference Supervising Committee met January 14, 1918, and authorized the securing of the services of an architect to draw plans for a new church. E. F. Berger, O. S. Purchis, W. H. Gascho, W. F. Daferner, and L. G. Webert were elected as a building committee March 19, 1918. On April 17, 1918, the Supervising Committee authorized the letting of the contract.

The new church with a seating capacity of 500 was dedicated March 23, 1919, Bishop L. H. Seager officiating. The first of the predicatorial services was held Thursday evening, March 18, 1919, being in charge of Rev. W. C. Swenk, presiding elder, who preached and conducted a communion service. The total cost for lot and building was \$31,983.76. During the following year a parsonage was erected at a cost of \$6,855.00, including the cost of the lot.

By April, 1921, the membership had increased to 79. Miss Anna West served as pastor's assistant several months during this year. When W. C. Swenk came as pastor in 1924, the membership was 121. Beginning with September, 1924, Miss Mary Ledebuhr served as deaconess for a period of 20 months. During the seven-year pastorate of Rev. D. C. Ostroth, the membership increased from 129 to 190. During the pastorate of Rev. L. F. Woodward, the church and parsonage were completely redecorated, inside and out, and a fine carpet laid in the church. Through the coöperation of the conference the indebtedness has been reduced from \$30,235.00 to about \$12,000.00.

The following have served as pastor for the periods indicated: H. W. Link, January, 1917-21; O. M. Albig, 1921-24; W. C. Swenk, 1924-27; D. C. Ostroth, 1927-34; L. F. Woodward, 1934-39; R. R. Brown, 1939-.

The present membership is 195 and the Sunday-school enrollment is 340.

LEIGHTON

In 1863, the first missionaries from the Ionia Mission, Rev. Jacob Trometer and Rev. John Berger, came to Leighton to preach and organized a class. Most of these first members had already been

members of the Evangelical Association in Canada. The Leighton Class raised \$12.65 for missions and paid a part of the salary of the missionary that year. Theo. Gleck was the first class leader.

In September, 1864, the Indiana Conference, to which Ionia Mission belonged, appointed Rev. M. Speck as pastor. In 1866, there were 18 members. In 1866 the name of the appointment was changed to Middleville. In 1868, Woodland Mission was formed with Leighton as one of the appointments. In April, 1874, the Leighton Class with the other Barry County appointments were constituted Caledonia Mission. In 1875, the parsonage was purchased at Caledonia and the first Sunday school organized at Leighton with Simon Haist as superintendent.

In 1877, a Sunday school was organized at Caledonia with twenty members, George Weitz being superintendent.

The first church built by the Leighton Class was erected in 1873, on the corner of S. Haist's farm. During the pastorate of Rev. J. Snyder a new building site was purchased two miles south of the first church. The new location is two miles east of Corning. A small brick church was erected on this site in the summer of 1894, under the ministry of Rev. H. Voelker. During the pastorate of Rev. B. Mohr, in 1911, the building was remodeled and enlarged. The next year a fine modern parsonage was erected. Other improvements followed during the years. In 1929, a basement under the church was built, a new heating plant installed, and improvements and repairs to the amount of \$2,500.00, not including donated labor, were made. The work was completed except minor details. About two weeks before time set for dedication, a fire of uncertain origin destroyed the entire church building. The congregation with fine courage, voted unanimously to rebuild on the same site.

The following have served as pastor: J. Trometer, J. Berger, 1863-64; M. Speck, 1864-66; J. Meck, 1866-68; C. Dieke, 1868-70; J. Orth, 1870-72; R. Spatz, 1872-74; G. Haller, 1874-75; J. Miller, 1875-76; C. Ude, 1876-77; E. H. Hess, 1877-79; O. Ragatz, 1879-80; C. Ude, 1880-83; H. Schuknecht, 1883-84; L. Brumm, 1884-87; W. Berge, 1887-88; J. Meck, 1888-90; J. G. Haller, Jr., 1890-91; H. T. Strauch, 1891-92; J. Snyder, 1892-94; H. Voelker, 1894-97; P. Scheurer, 1897-1900; J. M. Bittner, 1900-02; J. Neuber, 1902-05; J. F. Kirn, 1905-08; B. Mohr, 1908-13; E. C. Braun, 1913-17; A. Ostroth, 1917-21; G. C. Murbach, 1921-24; D. O. Ruth, 1924-28; S. R. Wurtz, 1928-32; L. E. Chamberlain, 1932-.

The present church membership is 232. The Sunday-school enrollment is 183.

LIMA

In 1858, Simon Fleischer, John Long, and Henry Schultz came with their families to Lima, LaGrange County, Indiana. Bishop

Seybert, who was acquainted with them in Pennsylvania, soon followed them and arranged that they might be served by Evangelical preachers. One year later, Philip Schwilly and C. Berger, father of Rev. F. C. Berger, came from Pennsylvania, and G. Klein and Jacob Herschey from Elkhart County, Indiana, with their families and made Lima their home. Peter Burgenner was their first pastor.

It is also reported that in 1857, Bishop Seybert came to Lima to visit his brother and preached in this section, being the first Evangelical preacher to preach in Lima.

The church building was erected in 1868, Rev. C. S. Brown being the pastor and Rev. M. J. Miller, the presiding elder. The church was remodeled in 1898 with a new rostrum, vestibule and steeple. The bell was donated by David Byers. It was further remodeled in 1911 by the raising of the church, the adding of a basement, new furnace, cement steps, new decorations, new pews, new pulpit, and new carpet. This work was accomplished by the earnest efforts of the membership, the Ladies' Aid deserving special mention. Rev. H. Spitler was the pastor. Rev. L. H. Seager officiated at the reopening.

During the first few years of its existence the Lima Charge was served by the Indiana Conference. When the Michigan Conference was formed in 1864, this appointment was included in the newly formed conference.

The following ministers have served this charge: Peter Burgenner, Rev. Roads and doubtless others before 1865; R. Riegel and M. Alspach, 1865-66; G. Doll and S. Copley, 1866-67; G. Doll and C. S. Brown, 1867-68; C. S. Brown, 1868-69; P. Wiest, 1869-70; C. Thomas, 1870-72; E. B. Miller, 1872-73; J. Paulin, 1873-74; B. F. Wade, 1874-75; J. W. Loose and G. A. Hettler, 1875-76; B. F. Wade, 1876-79; L. Kemmerling, 1879-81; H. C. Berger, 1881-84; John Schneider, 1884-86; W. H. Wagner, 1886-89; A. Frye, 1889-92; J. Young, 1892-95; L. V. Soldan, 1895-99; J. H. Keeler, 1899-1901; H. C. Fuerstenau, 1901-05; S. Salsbery, 1905-08; H. Spitler, 1908-13; J. Wales, 1913-14; G. H. Simpson, 1914-18; W. D. Hayes, 1918-22; L. E. Manore, 1922-27; Wm. Gumser, 1927-29; G. Klopfenstein, 1929-34; E. L. Marsh, 1934-37; G. A. Steeby, 1937-.

Rev. F. C. Berger, George Spitler, and Bert Calahan were recommended for the ministry from this church. The present membership of the church is 101, and the Sunday-school enrollment is 112.

MAPLE GROVE CIRCUIT

North Maple Grove

The Maple Grove Mission was started by pioneer ministers from Ionia about 1878. Sunday school may have been started earlier than this, but there are no records available to substantiate it. Services were first held in the McKelvey schoolhouse in union with the United

Brethren church. But on March 1, 1880, under the leadership of Rev. Frederick Mueller, a society was organized and trustees elected. A church was built the same year and dedicated by Rev. S. Heininger, pastor at Jackson, as the Emmanuel church of North Maple Grove. Fifty years later, in 1930, Rev. Heininger was present and spoke at a special anniversary service.

The church membership is 43. The Sunday-school enrollment is 72.

South Maple Grove

Sunday school was being held in the Dunham schoolhouse when Evangelical preachers first began holding services in the South Maple Grove community. In the fall of 1886 or early in 1887, a revival meeting under the direction of Rev. W. A. Koehler, with Rev. J. M. Bittner as evangelist, was held in the Dunham schoolhouse. As a result of this meeting, a class was organized and the present church was built in 1887. The field was being served as a part of the Woodland Circuit.

The church membership is 14. The Sunday-school enrollment is 49.

At the Annual Conference in 1889, the two Maple Grove churches together with Cloverdale and Schultz were constituted a mission and Rev. J. M. Nyce stationed as pastor. In 1931, the field was divided and Cloverdale and Schultz became a separate mission. Since 1940, Cloverdale and the Maple Grove churches are being served by the same pastor. From the Maple Grove churches, the following have entered the ministry: J. J. Marshall, Albert Ostroth, Valentine Buxton, Samuel Ostroth and J. E. Norton. E. F. Rhoades had but recently moved into the community when he was licensed to preach.

The following have served this field as pastor since 1889: J. M. Nyce, 1889-92; H. Spitler, 1892-95; A. Frye, 1895-96; J. E. Holsaple, 1896-98; Geo. Brown, 1898-1900; F. H. Bailey, 1900-02; F. Koehler, 1902-04; D. J. Feather, 1904-05; J. J. Marshall, 1905-06; E. M. Renner, 1906-07; S. C. Croff, 1907-09; A. J. Hettler, 1909-11; D. W. Gamertsfelder, 1911-12; C. J. Gurney, 1912-15; W. H. Fairchild, 1915-17; E. A. Perone, 1917-19; G. B. Baldwin, 1919-20; F. H. Horn, 1920-21; B. E. Belknap, 1921-23 (F. H. Horn as assistant, 1922-23); A. Ostroth and W. E. Gottesleben, 1923-25; W. N. Nutt and A. Ostroth, 1925-29; W. N. Nutt and E. F. Rhoades, 1929-30; G. Holtz and E. F. Rhoades, 1930-31; E. F. Rhoades, 1931-38; T. A. Moyer, 1938-.

MAPLE HILL

So far as can be ascertained, Rev. L. Brumm was the first Evangelical missionary to preach at Maple Hill. His first visit to this place occurred about 1873-74 at which time he was serving Osceola Mission which included Osceola County and adjacent territory. Visits

by other missionaries seem to have been made previous to the time the work was organized by Rev. C. C. Staffeld in 1875, with a class numbering 27. A number of the charter members are said to have been converted previously at what was reported to be a "wonderful meeting." When the preacher gave the altar call, several arose. It was thought they were about to leave the meeting or intended to start trouble. Instead they hurried to the altar and sought the Lord.

The first meetings were held in a schoolhouse, the Lutherans also holding meetings in the same building. Later trouble developed over the time when each group should have the use of the school building. Desiring a house of worship of their own, two members of the church approached Henry Hinkle, a wealthy lumberman living in the community, whose wife was a member of the church, asking aid in the proposed building project. Mr. Hinkle very generously donated the land for a site and the lumber for a building. The only cost to the congregation was the cost of labor. This building is still in use, though no longer adequate to the needs of the Sunday school.

The parsonage was purchased during the pastorate of Rev. E. H. Hess. The cost of this property cannot be ascertained.

The following pastors have served the field: C. C. Staffeld, 1875-77; P. Berg, 1877-78; J. Y. Gingrich, 1878-79; F. Dietrich, 1879-80; J. Orth, 1880-83; J. Miller, 1883-84; A. E. Bogen, 1884-85; A. Frye, 1885-87; C. W. Ross, 1887-89; A. E. Bogen, 1889-90; F. W. Dill, 1890-93; E. H. Hess, 1893-95; F. E. Walter, 1895-98; E. Weiss, 1898-1902; J. Schmaus, 1902-05; B. Mohr, 1905-08; W. H. Bulgrin, 1908-10; J. Hommel, 1910-12; S. Moeller, 1912-16; W. F. Boettcher, 1916-19; G. Raduchel, 1919-23; P. Thomas, 1923-25; Rex. Lahr, 1925-27; J. Kirn, 1927-29; E. L. Marsh, 1929-32; H. A. Gunyan, 1932-35; P. F. Richards, 1935-36; D. R. Kring, 1936-40; S. R. Walton, 1940-.

The membership of the church is 92. Sunday-school enrollment, 120.

MARCELLUS

The work at Marcellus had its beginning in 1868. March 25th of that year the first class was formed under the ministry of Rev. C. S. Brown, and became part of the St. Joseph Circuit, which at that time was a very extensive circuit with a large number of appointments. The work made good progress and in March, 1872, there were 36 members in the Marcellus Class, 26 in the South Marcellus Class and 81 in the Knobs Class located a few miles away. During the year of 1872, the church edifice was erected and is still in use though changes and improvements have been made on it. It is of interest that contributions for the building were solicited with the understanding that ministers of other orthodox churches might use the building when it was not occupied by the Evangelical church. It was to be open on all funeral occasions.

In 1875, the Marcellus Circuit was formed by the conference and was continued until about 1904 when Marcellus was made a mission and has since been served alone, either as a mission or a station.

The following pastors have served the field for the years indicated: C. S. Brown, 1868-71; P. Wiest, 1871-72; S. Copley, 1872-74; J. H. Keeler, 1874-75; J. Young, 1875-77; R. Riegel, 1877-78; J. A. Frye, 1878-79; J. Paulin, 1879-80; G. A. Hettler, 1880-81; A. Russell, 1881-82; J. Schneider, 1882-84; H. T. Strauch, 1884-87; A. Frye, 1887-89; J. Young, 1889-92; J. S. Steinger, 1892-93; H. C. Fuerstenau, 1893-94; J. Schmaus, 1894-95; N. Frye, 1895-97; D. J. Feather, 1897-99; F. Koehler, 1899-1902; H. Spitler, 1902-06; H. A. Decker, 1906-09; F. H. Bailey, 1909-11; J. Wales, 1911-13; F. Koehler, 1913-15; H. Spitler, 1915-21; E. Willard, 1921-23; C. H. Howe, 1923-25; L. F. Woodward, 1925-28; T. A. Moyer, 1928-35; W. C. Bassett, 1935-38; R. H. Kretschmer, 1938-40; H. E. Kohn, 1940-.

The present church membership is 84. The Sunday-school enrollment is 133.

NASHVILLE

Through the efforts of Mrs. L. Brumm, Rev. W. A. Koehler, pastor of the Woodland and Maple Grove churches, began preaching in the town hall in Nashville every two weeks on Sunday afternoon in the year of 1885. In the winter of 1885-86, God so moved upon the hearts of the people that a great revival took place. As a result, an Evangelical class was organized with 29 members, the following being charter members: Mrs. L., Charles and Fred Brumm; Bertha, Lois, Mr. and Mrs. John Marshall; Mrs. Ed. White, Mrs. Wm. Buell, Mrs. Mina Whickman, Minnie Durham, Dan Garlinger, Joseph Hafner and wife, H. C. Zuschnitt and wife, Geo. Brown and wife, Peter Rothaar and wife, Frank Reynolds and wife, Jacob Young and wife, Lyman Brown and wife, Cort Wilkinson and wife, and Mrs. John Messimer.

The following spring a church 28 x 45 feet was built and furnished at a cost of \$2,500.00. Bishop R. Dubs officiated at the dedication September 12, 1886. Joseph Hafner, H. C. Zuschnitt, P. Rothaar, J. Marshall and J. Young were the first trustees.

In 1903, under the pastorate of F. E. Armstrong, the church was extensively remodeled and enlarged. A side room 18 x 30 feet, an entrance tower 8 x 8 feet, new seats, new windows, electric lighting, a new furnace, and other improvements were made at a cost of \$1,700.00. Bishop S. C. Breyfogel rededicated the building November 1, 1903.

Again in 1926, under the ministry of Rev. A. L. Bingaman, extensive improvements were made. The church was raised, a fine basement, with kitchen, furnace room, lavatories and other equipment was completed, a new furnace, new fixtures, decorating and other im-

provements to the extent of \$6,000.00 were made. The church was rededicated September 5, 1926, by Prof. E. N. Himmel of North Central College.

A parsonage was purchased in 1915.

The following pastors have served this charge: W. A. Koehler, 1886-88; Geo. Johnson, 1888-91; W. F. Kring, 1891-92; P. Scheurer, 1892-93; J. S. Steininger, 1893-95; J. R. Niergarth, 1895-96; Geo. Koehler, 1896-97; E. G. Frye, 1897-98; W. C. Swenk, 1898-1900; D. J. Feather, 1900-02; F. E. Armstrong, 1902-05; H. I. Voelker, 1905-07; O. C. Penticoff, 1907-09; C. C. Gibson, 1909-12; C. F. Smith, 1912-14; J. S. Deabler, 1914-16; J. Schurman, 1916-19; H. H. Donnenworth, 1919, seven months; H. E. Spade, 1919, five months; Wm. Gumser, 1920-22; F. E. Putnam, 1922-25; A. L. Bingaman, 1925-31; W. D. Hayes, 1931-32; S. R. Wurtz, 1932-35; E. Pritchard, 1935-38; W. C. Bassett, 1938-.

The present membership of the church is 138. The auxiliaries of the church are all in a prosperous condition. Sunday-school enrollment is 229.

NILES

Records indicate that the work in Niles began in 1904, being served first in connection with the former Avery appointment. The first services were held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Scheibach, then in the G. A. R. Hall and later in a house on the lot where the present church is located. The house was converted into a chapel with Sunday-school rooms. The Sunday school was organized with 42 enrolled and an average attendance of 30.

In the spring of 1905, Rev. J. Wales was appointed as pastor. During his pastorate of two years, the church was built with a debt of \$2,475.00 remaining on church and parsonage when he was transferred to another field.

Under the consecrated leadership of pastors D. O. Ruth, C. H. Howe, and E. M. Renner, substantial progress was made. During a one year pastorate of C. R. Richards, the church was extensively remodeled, and a basement put under the church to meet the needs of a growing Bible school. Due to ill health, Brother Richards retired at the end of one year. During the pastorates of W. H. Camfield, J. Schurman, S. Young and M. R. Everett, the church was greatly strengthened, its influence in the community extended and splendid progress made generally. During Brother Camfield's pastorate, a fine parsonage was secured.

Rev. A. R. Kuehn was appointed to the field in 1934 and with the depression years fairly well past, extensive improvements on the church were undertaken. In the fall of 1935, the interior of the church was redecorated, the basement remodeled and steam heating plant installed at a cost of \$3,800.00. The outlook for the church is good.

The present membership is 194. The Sunday-school enrollment 310. Other auxiliaries are prosperous.

The following have served as pastor for the periods indicated: J. S. Deabler a few months in the beginning; J. Wales, 1905-07; D. O. Ruth, 1907-10; C. H. Howe, 1910-12; E. M. Renner, 1912-16; C. R. Richards, 1916-17; W. H. Camfield, 1917-22; J. Schurman, 1922-29; S. Young, 1929-30; M. R. Everett, 1930-34; A. R. Kuehn, 1934-41; A. C. DeVries, 1941-.

PARK CIRCUIT

Center Park Appointment

The date of the beginnng of the work at Center Park is uncertain. It is believed that Solomon Altimos, who preached "powerfully" in Centerville, may also have preached at Park at some time prior to 1942. We are certain that in 1846, George Kaag took up an appointment in the Park community.

It is reported that in 1849, George Doll organized the Park Society. From that time little information is available until 1869 when the Center Park church was erected, grandfather Bloom being the chief sponsor of the building project.

Up to the year of 1875, Center Park was a part of the St. Joseph Circuit, an extensive circuit with numerous appointments. The conference in 1875 divided the circuit, constituting one portion the Park Circuit with five appointments: Center Park, Mendon, Flatbush, Brady and E. Lockport. Since 1891 Center Park and West Mendon appointments have constituted Park Circuit.

During the pastorate of Rev. J. A. Frye, a new parsonage was built. The parsonage burned in 1928 and the present parsonage was immediately erected.

In 1906, during the pastorate of H. A. Decker, a Ladies' Aid was organized. Young People's Alliance organizations were reported under the ministry of Berger, Soldan, Camfield and Decker. It is probable that Center Park has the honor of organizing the first Alliance in the conference. Buchanan is a contender for the same honor.

Beginning with 1846, the following ministers have served Park for the periods indicated: Geo. Kaag, 1846-47; C. A. Munk, 1847-48; Geo. Doll, 1848-50; J. G. Kissel, 1850-51; J. G. Kissel and M. Hoehn, 1851-52; Henry Dauny, 1852-53; Philip Porr and J. Walz, 1853-54; G. Yung, 1854-56; M. Alspach (or Alsbach), 1856-58; G. Kloepper, 1858-59; P. Burgenner, 1859-60; Philip Schwilly, 1860-62; Peter Roth, 1862-64; R. Riegel, 1864-65; R. Riegel and M. Alspach, 1865-66; Geo. Doll and S. Copley, 1866-67; Geo. Doll and C. S. Brown, 1867-68; C. S. Brown, 1868-69; E. B. Miller, 1869-70; P. Wiest and T. N. Davis, 1870-71; S. Copley and J. W. Loose, 1871-72; S. Copley, 1872-73; E. B. Miller, 1873-74; J. H. Keeler, 1874-75; B. F. Wade, 1875-76; J. H. Keeler, 1876-78; G. A. Hettler, 1878-80; H. C. Berger, 1880-81; J. A. Frye, 1881-84; C. S. Brown, 1884-87; J. W. Loose, 1887-88; H. T. Strauch, 1888-

89; F. C. Berger, 1889-90; F. C. Berger and C. Brumm, 1890-91; F. C. Berger, 1891-92; A. A. Scheurer, 1892-94; L. V. Soldan, 1894-95; A. Ostroth, 1895-97; N. Frye, 1897-99; N. Frye and W. H. Camfield, 1899-1900; W. H. Wagner, 1900-01; W. H. Camfield, 1901-03; H. A. Decker, 1903-06; H. Spitler, 1906-08; J. Kirn, 1908-12; W. A. Shelly, 1912-14; F. E. Armstrong, 1914-16; H. C. Heise, 1916-19; W. H. Hutton, 1919-20; Geo. Hall, 1920-22; H. E. Spade, 1922 to September, 1924; O. G. Knechtel, September, 1924-25; C. Trueschal, 1925-29; E. Pritchard, 1929-35; F. A. Hood, 1935-38; L. E. Manore, 1938-.

The present membership is 61. The Sunday-school enrollment, 93.

West Mendon Appointment

Information is not available as to the time when the work began at West Mendon. The church was built in 1871. Later a basement was constructed under the church and extensive improvements made. The appointment has been connected with Park Circuit since 1875. The list of ministers serving since that time will be found with the Center Park sketch.

The church membership is 75. The Sunday-school enrollment, 132.

PORTAGE PRAIRIE

Portage Prairie is one of the oldest societies in the Michigan Conference. There is some conflict in our information regarding the date of the beginning of this work. A report that seems to be trustworthy, indicates that Bishop Seybert in his journeys through Michigan, observed the fine land on Portage Prairie. Upon his return to Pennsylvania he reported his observations, with the result that Jacob, John, David and George Rauch (Rough), came to Michigan in 1849, settling on Portage Prairie. Bishop Seybert followed them the same summer and organized a class. He at once wrote Rev. J. J. Esher (later Bishop), who was serving Elkhart Circuit, at that time a part of the Illinois Conference, asking that he and his colleague serve Portage Prairie with their circuit. This they did until the next conference session. This became their thirtieth appointment. Bishop John Seybert was therefore the first Evangelical preacher and Bishop J. J. Esher the first preacher-in-charge at Portage Prairie. In 1854, this appointment was a part of Berrien Mission. In 1857 Portage Prairie Circuit was formed.

When the Michigan Conference was organized in 1864, Portage Prairie was detached from the Indiana Conference and made a part of this newly organized conference.

The first church was built in 1859. In 1887, the present structure was built at a cost of \$7,000.00, Rev. J. A. Frye being the pastor. The church was dedicated free from debt by Bishop T. Bowman.

In 1889 a barn was built on the parsonage lot. In 1891 a new kitchen was built on the parsonage. In 1899, church sheds were built. In 1912, a fine new parsonage was built and about 1919 the church was remodeled, a splendid basement, a gallery and Sunday-school rooms being constructed.

Five conference sessions have been entertained by this society: The session of 1867, Bishop J. J. Esher, presiding; the session of 1884, Bishop T. Bowman, presiding; the session of 1891, Bishop T. Bowman, presiding; the session of 1920, Bishop S. P. Spreng, presiding; the session of 1930, Bishop M. T. Maze, presiding. The banner now goes to this society for the number of conference sessions entertained.

During the earlier days, this society was part of a large circuit, at one time extending from Bristol on the east to Lake Michigan on the west with nearly a dozen appointments.

The following pastors have served this charge: J. J. Esher, Joshua Paulin, 1865-66; M. Alspach and M. Speck, 1866-67; E. B. Miller, 1867-68; Edward Evans, 1868-69; E. Boyer, 1869-71; J. Young and L. Kemmerling, 1871-72; L. Kemmerling, 1872-73; J. Young, 1873-75; J. Paulin, 1875-77; O. Ragatz, 1877-79; F. F. Meyer, 1879-80; J. H. Keeler, 1880-82; C. C. Staffeld, 1882-84; G. A. Hettler, 1884-86; J. A. Frye, 1886-89; H. T. Strauch, 1889-91; W. A. Koehler, 1891-93; W. H. Wagner, 1893-96; J. Young, 1896-98; F. Koehler, 1898-99; W. Brown, 1899-1901; A. Ostroth, 1901-04; D. O. Ruth, 1904-07; W. F. Kring, 1907-12; H. I. Voelker, 1912-16; P. Schuerer, 1916-20; C. A. Wilkie, 1920-22; F. W. Fall, 1922-26; H. C. Heise, 1926-28; C. A. Sanders, 1928-30; E. Willard, 1930-32; H. A. Frye, 1932-34; C. Trueschal, 1934-.

This thriving rural church has 158 members at this date and is fully organized along every line. The Sunday-school enrollment is 185.

ROYALTON

The first Evangelical ministers to visit this section came over from the Indiana Conference though no certain information is available as to the beginnings of the work. The Evangelical church was organized in Royalton Township in 1860 by Rev. C. Ude. Previous to this services were held in the log houses and special meetings were held in the schoolhouses of the community. Henry Ashoff was the first class leader which office he held for eighteen years. The first house of worship was erected on his farm near the present location of the Royalton school. The following year a Sunday school was organized with Gottlieb Hettler as the first superintendent. By 1880 there were thirty church members and fifty members of the Sunday school.

The Arden (Buckhorn) Evangelical church, of the Royalton charge, was organized and the present house of worship erected in 1888 under the ministry of Rev. J. Snyder. Among the charter members the family names of Moyer, Spaulding, Stover and Tobias are found. The present church basement was constructed under the

pastorate of Rev. A. L. Bingaman. Among the successful revivals conducted in this church were those conducted by Revs. J. Wales, E. M. Renner, and J. Zoller.

The Scottdale church was erected in 1892 under the ministry of Rev. A. Bogen at a cost reported to be \$7,700.00. The church parlors were constructed during the pastorate of Rev. A. L. Bingaman. Royalton Township has made contributions in land and equipment to this church. The names of Frank Miner, Fred Geissler, Jacob Sanders, and others are prominent in the history of this society. A revival still talked much about by the older members is one conducted by Rev. J. Zoller.

Up to the year of 1890 the following are reported to have served as pastor: C. Ude, Rev. Ruh, M. Alspach, R. Riegel, M. Speck, J. M. Haug, J. Meck, C. C. Staffeld, W. Berge, J. Miller, J. Snyder, and J. Young.

Royalton first appears in the list of appointments in 1890. Since that time the following have served as pastor: N. Frye, 1890-91; A. E. Bogen, 1891-93; E. Rath, 1893-96; C. W. Ross, 1896-97; F. Koehler, 1897-98; J. H. Keeler and I. H. Ewing, 1898-99; J. G. Neuber, 1899-1900; H. C. Fuerstenau, 1900-01; E. M. Renner, 1901-03; J. E. Holsaple, 1903-05; W. H. Moyer, 1905-08; J. Wales, 1908-11; L. S. Davison, 1911-12; E. S. Faust, 1912-13; J. E. Zoller, 1913-14; E. S. Dutcher, 1914-15; H. C. Heise, 1915-16; F. L. Pohly, 1916-18; E. Willard, 1918-21; A. L. Bingaman, 1921-25; E. L. Marsh, 1925-26; M. R. Everett, 1926-30; W. Crothers, 1930-32; F. A. Hood, 1932-35; S. R. Wurtz, 1935-40; D. R. Kring, 1940-.

The membership of the church is 128. The Sunday-school enrollment is 161.

ST. JOSEPH

It appears probable that during the late "fifties," Evangelical ministers began preaching in the homes of some of the German people in St. Joseph, though the date of the visit of the first Evangelical missionary cannot be determined. Later services were conducted in a schoolhouse in the village.

In 1868, the conference established the St. Joseph Mission and appointed Rev. J. M. Haug as the first pastor. During the same year, the Mission congregation purchased a brick church building from the English Baptist Society at a cost of \$2,643.39. Though \$2,170.07 was secured in cash and pledges, the remaining debt became one of the serious financial problems of the struggling conference.

In 1888, twenty years after the purchase of the property, Bishop Dubs, through the *Evangelical Messenger*, reported that the property was in a very dilapidated condition. At its next session, the conference took steps to make necessary repairs.

In 1892, the old building was torn down and a new and more

commodious building erected at a cost of \$3,000.00. The new edifice was dedicated December 10, 1892, Rev. S. P. Spreng officiating.

In 1895, during the pastorate of Rev. George Johnson, the parsonage was erected.

The congregation was greatly strengthened during the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Camfield. In January, 1914, a union evangelistic campaign was conducted by the Stephens Party. As a result, the Evangelical church increased its membership from 110 to 270. The prayer meeting attendance increased from about 12 to nearly 100. This marked increase called for extensive remodelling and enlargement of the church. The project was shortly undertaken at a cost of \$5,800.00. The church was rededicated May 30, 1915, Dr. L. H. Seager officiating. At their own request, the congregation was placed on the list of stations by the conference in 1914.

The congregation entertained the Annual Conference in 1916 and again in 1923. Three young men have entered the ministry from this church. The present church membership is 153. The Sunday-school enrollment is also 153. The church is fully organized in every department of work.

The following have served the church as pastor since 1868: J. M. Haug, 1868-70; J. Young, 1870-71; O. Ragatz, 1871-73; S. Henne and Peter Berg, 1873-74; A. Nicolai, 1874-75; Wm. Riemke and A. Frye, 1875-76; Peter Bittner, 1876-78; C. Ude, 1878-80; C. C. Staffeld, 1880-82; W. Berge, 1882-84; J. Schmaus, 1884-86; J. Orth, 1886-87; J. Snyder, 1887-88; J. Young, 1888-89; N. Frye and G. Heximer, 1889-90; W. Berge and C. A. Bremer, 1890-91; J. Schmaus, 1891-92; H. C. Fuerstenau, 1892-93; L. V. Soldan, 1893-94; E. Rath, 1894-95; George Johnson, 1895-96; J. R. Niergarth, 1896-99; F. C. Berger, 1899-1901; H. A. Decker, 1901-03; W. R. Currier, 1903-04; E. G. Frye, 1904-08; W. C. Swenk, 1908-12; W. H. Camfield, 1912-17; F. W. Kirn, 1917-20; H. A. Thede, 1920—April to August; L. R. Anderson, August, 1920 to August, 1924; H. E. Spade, 1924-25; C. W. Lyman, 1925-28; L. F. Woodward, 1928-34; L. E. Burgess, 1934-.

TURK LAKE

Rev. C. C. Staffeld, pastor of Maple Hill Charge, 1875-77 seems to have been the first Evangelical missionary to visit the Turk Lake community, his first contacts having been made, apparently, during the summer of 1875. A great many German people were living in the community, many of them members of the Lutheran church. Converts resulted from Rev. Staffeld's labors and a class was organized. Difficulty was experienced in securing a suitable place of worship. With valuable assistance from Mr. Fred Schwartz, a layman, Brother Staffeld led in the erection of a log church. The quarterly conference for the charge was held in this newly-erected church, April 22, 1876. A report given in that meeting gave the cost of materials as \$400.00,

labor evidently having been donated. Toward the cost of the building \$375.00 had been collected, leaving a debt of \$25.00. At the day of dedication, Rev. J. M. Haug, presiding elder, officiating, \$75.00 was collected, more than enough to cover the debt. Rev. Haug was given \$25.00 for his services.

In 1892, the need for a more adequate building was realized and a new frame edifice was erected, being dedicated June 25, 1892. The present church membership is 31. The Sunday-school enrollment is 39.

Turk Lake having been served with Maple Hall the list of ministers serving the church will be found with the Maple Hill sketch. During the years of 1922 to 1937 Turk Lake was served separately by the following pastors: H. A. Gunyan, 1922-25; W. E. Gottesleben, 1925-37.

VICKSBURG

The work of the Evangelical Church in Vicksburg and vicinity was begun by Rev. J. W. Loose under whose leadership the people decided to form a society in Vicksburg. Before the erection of the Vicksburg church services were held for some time in the Dinger schoolhouse south east of Vicksburg.

In May, 1887, a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a church society. The name chosen was "Salem Evangelical church." Those signing the incorporation papers were J. W. Stofflet, David Hock, Peter Strome, Peter M. Strome, Daniel Moyer, Amos Knaus, Godfrey Shingledecker, Henry Moyer, Peter Cole and Philip Shook. The members of the first board of trustees were Peter Strome, Sr., president; Amos Knaus, vice-president; David Hock, secretary, and Henry Moyer, treasurer. At the first meeting of the society, building plans were begun.

The following were appointed as members of the Building Committee. J. W. Stofflett, Peter Strome, Sr., and Emmanuel Strome. The building of the church was begun immediately and was completed in December at a cost of \$3,273.00. The dedicatory services were held December 4, 1887, Bishop Thomas Bowman officiating. The church was incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan in 1900.

In 1924, under the ministry of Rev. W. I. Kaechele, the church was remodelled, enlarged and a basement put under the building, at a cost of \$13,850.00. The cornerstone of the remodelled building was laid in February, 1925, and the dedicatory services were held in November of the same year. At no time has the Vicksburg church made marked progress, though it has increasingly become a vital part of the community. The largest membership at any given time was 79 in 1924.

At the fiftieth anniversary, December 4, 1937, the total debt was

reported at \$9,950.00, not including back interest. Through the concerted efforts of the Trustee Board and the pastor and the splendid coöperation of the creditors, the indebtedness has been reduced to \$4,100.00. With this relief in debt burden and with a church plant adequate to serve the community, the society is ready to enjoy more rapid progress.

The following have served the church as pastor since its beginning: J. W. Loose, 1887-90; (with Park) F. C. Berger and C. Brumm, 1890-91; J. S. Steininger, 1891-92; G. Heximer, 1892-93; Geo. Koehler, 1893-94; L. W. Stipe, 1894-95; M. A. Oldt, 1895-96; F. Koehler, 1896-97; supplied by S. S. Albert (?), 1897-98; W. H. Camfield, 1898-1901; C. W. Long, 1901-03; E. G. Johnson, 1903-05; John Kirn, 1905-07; E. M. Renner, 1907 (April to August); P. S. Mayer, 1907 (August)-1908; L. P. May, 1908-09; C. D. Finch, 1909-10; G. A. Hettler, 1910-11; H. C. Heise, 1911-13; G. H. Simpson, 1913-14; D. O. Ruth, 1914-15; S. Cormany, 1915-16; E. M. Renner, 1916-20; W. H. Fowler, 1920-22; E. W. Zoller, 1922-24; W. I. Kaechele, 1924-30; C. G. Kaatz, 1930-32; N. W. Klump, 1932-40; H. E. Ryan, 1940-.

The present church membership is 74 and the Sunday-school enrollment, 124.

WEST UNITY CHARGE

West Unity Appointment

This field had its beginning some time in the early fifties as part of the work of the Ohio Conference. In the spring of 1861, following a glorious revival by Rev. Schwartz the class was formed and he became its first pastor.

When the Michigan Conference was formed in 1864 at Carey, Ohio, all territory in Lucas, Fulton, and Williams Counties, north of the Maumee River became, by action of the General Conference, part of the newly formed conference. West Unity being in this territory was included in the Michigan Conference.

In 1875, the first church was built on the William Stipe farm, meetings having been held previously in the little schoolhouse. The following were among the charter members: B. F. Combs and wife, W. Hayes and wife, H. Hayes and wife, J. Bradwick and wife, F. Smith, H. Hake, D. Straw, G. Altman, W. Eaton, Maria Beaty, Nancy Dunscomb, Katherine Spencer, and Esther Traxler.

The present church was built in 1901 under the leadership of Rev. W. F. Kring. The following men have entered the ministry from this church: L. W. Stipe, William Stipe, A. M. Haddix, E. F. Rhoades to the Michigan Conference. V. Robison and Paul Smith to other denominations.

The church is out of debt, is in good repair and has a present membership of 46. The Sunday-school enrollment, 96.

Clay Appointment

The first meetings in this community were held in a little red schoolhouse. The Clay Class was organized and incorporated December 22, 1871, under the laws of Ohio. In 1872, under the leadership of Rev. C. S. Brown, the present church was built on the farm of Jacob Glime.

The following were charter members: Jacob Glime and wife, Israel Ozman and wife, Jason Towne and wife, George Clay and wife, Rev. C. Z. Steward and wife, Joseph Greek, Fred Armbruster and John Kirkenburg.

This church has given the following to the Christian ministry: C. Z. Steward, F. F. Maneval, H. A. Brannan, W. H. Fairchild to the Evangelical ministry and the Revs. Clay and Stahl to the United Brethren Church. A Mr. Tahabiaga, missionary to Syria, and Rev. Dewitt also entered Christian work from this church. The present membership is 40. The Sunday-school enrollment is 60

Salem Appointment

This congregation worshipped for many years in the Buckeye schoolhouse. In 1885 the present church building was erected on ground donated by Eli Calbetzer. The following were among the charter members: R. Rohland, F. H. Bailey, Homer Price, and Clair Day. Rev. D. C. Rohland, one of the charter members of the Michigan Conference, was for many years a member of this congregation.

The present membership is 30. The Sunday-school enrollment is 33.

While the field has never been among the strongest in the conference it has a notable record in having given eighteen men to the Christian ministry, either in the Michigan Conference or in other denominations.

Preceding 1872, when West Unity first appears in the records as Amboy Circuit, the following are reported to have served as pastor: Schwartz, Borough, and Paulin. Beginning with 1872 the following have served: D. C. Rohland and E. K. Dewitt, 1872-73; T. N. Davis and A. Russell, 1873-74; G. A. Hettler, 1874-75; J. A. Frye, 1875-78; J. Schmaus, 1878-80; E. B. Arthur, 1880-82; A. Frye, 1882-83; J. Drinkwater, 1884-86; D. P. Rumberger, 1886-88; J. J. Schuknecht, 1888-90; John Snyder, 1890-92; S. B. Hibbard, 1892-93; J. A. Swenk, 1893-97; E. M. Renner, 1897-98; G. G. Heximer, 1898-1900; W. F. Kring, 1900-04; A. Ostroth, 1904-05; W. S. McDivitt, 1905-06; O. P. Schleicher, 1906-11; C. J. Gurney, 1911-12; F. H. Horn, 1912-16; E. Willard, 1916-18; A. D. Smith, 1918-19; J. W. Levan, 1919-20; G. Klopfenstein, 1920-21; W. N. Nutt, 1921-25; G. Holtz, 1925-26; A. D. Burch, 1926-33; C. Trueschal, 1933-34; W. Gumser, 1934-36; H. E. Ryan, 1936-40; L. E. Lee, 1940-.

WOODLAND

The work at Woodland began in 1859 under the ministry of Rev. M. Krueger of the Indiana Conference. Rev. Joseph Fisher was the presiding elder. In 1860, the class was organized with twelve charter members. At this time the field extended from Marshall to Ionia, and was known as the Calhoun Mission. At a later time the charge included Nashville, Maple Grove, Cloverdale, and Schults. By 1890, all the other societies were detached except Sebewa which with Woodland constituted Woodland Charge. In 1900 Sebewa was discontinued leaving Woodland by itself.

The first services were held in the Velte schoolhouse located three and a quarter miles southwest from the present church. Shortly after the beginning of the Civil War, the society began the erection of a new church. When the frame was up and "roughed in" the contractor enlisted in the army, leaving the church unfinished until after the close of the war. During this time the society worshiped in the Meyer United Brethren church and the Velte schoolhouse. When the war was over the carpenter finished the church and it was dedicated in 1866 by Bishop J. J. Esher. John Meck was pastor, and Andrew Nicolai, presiding elder.

In 1887 a new church was built at the present location which is nearly two miles north of the original site. This church was dedicated by Bishop Dubs, September 12, 1887, and on the same day the bishop dedicated the Nashville church. Rev. W. A. Koehler was pastor and E. Weiss, presiding elder.

In 1910, this building was struck by lightning and burned. The society showed fine courage and set to work immediately to rebuild. The present solid brick structure was completed in 1911 at a cost of \$5,000.00. It was dedicated by Bishop Thomas Bowman. William Berge was pastor and J. R. Niergarth, presiding elder.

Woodland first appears in the list of appointments in 1882. Prior to that time the following are reported to have served as pastor: M. Krueger, C. Ude, M. Speck, J. Trometer, J. Meck, C. Deike, R. Spatz, J. Orth, George Haller and F. Mueller. Since 1882 the following have served as pastor: L. Brumm, 1882-84; H. Schuknecht, 1884-85; W. A. Koehler, 1885-88; George Johnson, 1888-90; J. Miller, 1890-91; L. V. Soldan, 1891-93; S. Henne, 1893-94; J. M. Fuchs, 1894-98; F. E. Walter, 1898-1900; H. T. Strauch, 1900-02; J. F. Kirn, 1902-05; W. Bulgrin, 1905-08; W. Berge, 1908-12; W. F. Boettcher, 1912-14; H. Voelker, 1914-16; W. F. Vogel, 1916-18; H. Stressman, 1918-20; H. E. Spade, 1920-22; A. J. Hettler, 1922-29; C. Trueschal, 1929-31; J. Riebel, 1931-33; W. Gumser, 1933-34; G. Klopfenstein, 1934-40; J. S. Deabler, 1940-.

The present church membership is 67. The Sunday-school enrollment is 84.

SECTION VI

ABANDONED CHURCHES AND PREACHING PLACES, MICHIGAN CONFERENCE—EVANGELICAL CHURCH

<i>Name of Field</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Organ- ized</i>	<i>Lapsed</i>	<i>First Pastor</i>	<i>Last Pastor</i>
Corning	Allegan	....	....	.....	.....
Alpena	Alpena	1889*	1890	.....	.....
Elk Rapids	Antrim	....	....	.....	.....
Beaver	Bay	....	....	.....	.....
Brooks	"	1887*	....	.....	.....
Williams .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Castleton	Barry	1868	1921	Stephen Henne	Wm. Gumser
Hope	"	1889	....	John M. Nyce	.....
Lacy	"	1890	....	John M. Nyce	.....
Middleville	"	1868*	....	C. Deike	.....
Schultz	"	1889*	1932	John M. Nyce	Geo. A. Holtz
Schoolhouse (unnamed)	"	1852	....	.....	.....
Avery	Berrien	1874*	1913	E. H. Hess	Wm. H. Watson
Bridgeman	"	1874*	....	E. H. Hess	.....
Coveney School .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Dutch Corners .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Feathers .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Freidays	"	1866	....	Martin Alspach	.....
Harners .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Hinchman .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Lake	"	1894*	....	F. W. Dill	.....
Lenden	"	1904*	....	.....	.....
Millburg .....	"	....	1927	.....	Arthur C. Bauman
Lincoln Ave. (St. Joe) or Benton Harbor .	"	1886	....	.....	.....
Oronoko .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Piney Lake .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Ruggles	"	1888*	....	.....	.....
Three Oaks	"	1874*	....	E. H. Hess	.....
Wagner School	"	1896*	....	Frank C. Berger	.....
Frankfort	Benzie	1884*	1887	August Winters	John J. Marshall
Bethel	Branch	....	....	.....	.....
Ceresco	Calhoun	1873*	....	.....	.....
Eckford	"	1846	1895	George Kaag	.....
Duck Lake	"	1877*	....	L. Kemmerling	.....
Homer	"	1892*	....	George Koehler	.....
Marshall	"	1846	1911	George Kaag	C. M. Early
Seger	"	1881*	....	.....	.....
Bucher	Cass	....	....	.....	.....
Nobs	"	1875*	....	.....	.....
Paradise	"	1883*	....	.....	.....

* Indicates that the appointment existed at that date. It may have been established somewhat earlier.

Some of the places listed above were preaching places where organized congregations were not effected. In many instances the congregations worshiped in schoolhouses, homes, or halls. But in each of these communities the Evangelical Church ministered for a period, in some instances for many years and in other instances for a brief period only.

We are certain that this list is not complete and that the ministers of the conference ministered in many other localities of which there is no record. In a few instances there may be duplications since one appointment was occasionally known by two or more names. Lebanon, known also as Luke's and Dutch Ridge, is a case in point. Care has been taken to avoid duplications and we believe the number remaining will be very small.

<i>Name of Field</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Organ- ized</i>	<i>Lapsed</i>	<i>First Pastor</i>	<i>Last Pastor</i>
Dodge	Clare	1889	1892	Jacob Hommel	J. Hommel
Nester Dam	"	1905	1906	Sylvester C. Croff	Edward A. Perone
DeWitt	Clinton	1864	....	John Meck	.....
West Haven	"	1864	....	John Meck	.....
Wildcat Appointment	"	....	....	.....	.....
School Appointment	Cheboy- gan	....	....	.....	.....
(unnamed) .....	....	....	....	.....	.....
Grayling	Craw- ford	....	....	.....	.....
Drayton Hts. (Flint)	Genesee	1918	1919	Chas. A. Strait	C. A. Strait
Gaines	"	1929	1935	Daniel F. Binder	Herman C. Heise
Goodrich	"	1869*	....	Christian Ude	.....
Richfield	"	1858	....	Frederick Zeller	.....
Swartz Creek	"	1864	....	C. Deike	.....
Thedford	"	1876*	....	.....	.....
Brookfield	"	1858	1897	Frederick Zeller	Jacob F. Kirn
Charlesworth	Eaton	1877*	....	L. Kemmerling	.....
Charlotte	"	1877*	1898	L. Kemmerling	.....
Kalamo	"	1858	....	Michael Krueger	.....
Sunfield .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Town Hall	"	1892*	....	Lewis V. Soldan	.....
Batts .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Boyne City	Emmet	1893*	....	Wm. F. Kring	.....
Boyne Falls	"	1906	1926	Charles H. Howe	Harry J. Rhines
Conway	"	1880	....	.....	.....
Joy	"	1918	1929	Wm. H. Fairchild	Geo. C. Murbach
Little Traverse Bay	"	....	....	.....	.....
Spring Vale .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
School (unnamed) ..	"	....	....	.....	.....
Beaverton	Gladwin	1892*	....	.....	.....
Butman	"	1902*	....	Valentine Buxton	.....
Gladwin	"	1906	1907	Edward A. Perone	.....
North Sage	"	1900*	....	Frank Baylis	.....
Sherman	"	1913*	....	.....	.....
Ashley	Gratiot	....	....	.....	.....
Carson City	"	1882*	....	John Orth	.....
Gratiot .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Washington Center	"	....	1925	.....	Wm. F. Kring
School Appointment	"	....	....	.....	.....
(unnamed) .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Beitner's	Grand Trav- erse	....	....	.....	.....
Silver Lake	"	1877*	1929	Joseph Y. Gingrich	John S. Deabler
School Appointment	"	....	....	.....	.....
(unnamed) .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Traverse City	"	....	....	.....	.....
East Side	"	1912	....	Philip H. Pohly	.....
Amboy	Hills- dale	....	....	.....	.....
Litchfield	"	1870*	....	David C. Rohland	.....
West Litchfield .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
N. E. Litchfield .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Oak Harbor .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Waldron	"	1925	1926	Harry A. Gunyan	Harry A. Gunyan
Berne	Huron	1885	(Pigeon)	D. W. Schafer	.....
Becken	"	1885	....	.....	.....
Bum	"	1887	....	.....	.....
Ebenezer	"	1887	....	.....	.....
Emmanuel .....	"	....	1894	.....	Wm. Berge
Huron .....	"	....	1920	.....	Frank H. Bailey.
Jericho .....	"	....	....	.....	.....

* See note on page 243.

<i>Name of Field</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Organ- ized</i>	<i>Lapsed</i>	<i>First Pastor</i>	<i>Last Pastor</i>
Kinches Corner	Huron	1892	.....	.....	.....
Linkville . . . . .	"	.....	1924	.....	Wm. F. Boettcher
Minden . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Morrison	"	1906	.....	Valentine Buxton	.....
Ridge . . . . .	"	.....	1894	.....	Wm. Berge
Ruth . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Verona	"	1889*	1920	Wm. F. Vogel	Frank H. Bailey
Tawas City	Iosco	1870*	1800	Edward Weiss	.....
Union	Isabella	.....	1932	.....	Gustav Raduchel
Allen School	Jackson	.....	.....	.....	.....
Napoleon	"	1870	.....	.....	.....
Portage . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Springport . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
South Rives	"	1883*	.....	C. Vincent	.....
Rives . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wampler's Lake . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Waterloo	"	1846	.....	George Kaag	.....
Woodville . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Break O'Day	Ingham	.....	.....	.....	.....
Holt	"	1864	1894	John Meck	J. E. Holsaple
North Rives . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Webberville	"	1899	.....	.....	.....
Bloomers	Ionia	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sebawa . . . . .	"	.....	1909	.....	Wm. Berge
Brady (Vicksburg) . .	Kala- mazoo	1869*	.....	E. B. Miller	.....
McCains . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tiffany	"	1889	.....	.....	.....
Bowen	Kent	1889	.....	.....	.....
Caledonia	"	1863	1911	Jacob Trometer	Benjamin Mohr
Fisher's Station . . . .	"	.....	1921	.....	Leroy E. Chamberlain
Grandville . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Luther	Lake	1891*	.....	.....	.....
Pinora	"	1885*	1898	.....	.....
Empire	Leelenau	1878	.....	Joseph Y. Gingrich	.....
Good Harbor	"	1879*	.....	.....	.....
Hatch's Crossing	"	1919	1920	Chas. A. Strait	Chas. A. Strait
Maple City	"	1826*	.....	Chas. E. Koteskey	.....
Suttons Bay . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Almont	Lapeer	1889*	.....	.....	.....
Burnside	"	1870	1913	John M. Fuchs	Oscar Y. Schneider
Goodland	"	1883*	.....	.....	.....
Imlay . . . . .	"	.....	1927	.....	Elmer Pritchard
Adrian	Lenawee	1845	1871	George Kaag	C. Deike
Beagle	"	1861	1891	J. J. Kopp	Henry Voelker
Crane	"	1887*	.....	.....	.....
Logan	"	1887*	.....	.....	.....
Ridgeway . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Riga	"	1877*	1906	.....	Adam A. Scheurer
Ward School . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brighton	Livings- ton	1876*	.....	.....	.....
Conway	"	1884*	.....	George Johnson	.....
Genoa	"	1864*	.....	C. Deike	.....
Northfield . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
(S. S. Howell) . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Schoolhouse . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
(unnamed) . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Adams Mill	Mason	.....	.....	.....	.....
Amber . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Conrad School . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....
Custer . . . . .	"	.....	.....	.....	.....

* See note on page 243.

<i>Name of Field</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Organ- ized</i>	<i>Lapsed</i>	<i>First Pastor</i>	<i>Last Pastor</i>
East Riverton	Mason	....	1923	.....	Wm. H. Fairchild
Eden .....	"	....	1931	.....	Glen G. Ball
Fern .....	"	....	.....	.....	.....
Hamlin	"	1884*	....	.....	.....
Denmark	"	1886*	....	.....	.....
Ludington	"	1885	....	.....	.....
Menninger School ..	"	....	....	.....	.....
School Appointment (unnamed) .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Weldon Creek	Mason	1886*	....	.....	.....
Victoria	"	1886*	....	.....	.....
Hazel Park	Macomb	1928	1931	Leroy Chamberlain	Otto G. Knechtel
Memphis .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Richmond (Lenox) ..	"	....	1930	.....	Wm. H. Wagner
Ridgeway	"	1872*	....	E. H. Hess	.....
Romeo	"	1877	....	.....	.....
Manistee	Man- istee	1883	....	August Winters	.....
Pomona	"	1890*	1934	.....	C. B. Wilson
Midland	Midland	1889	1903	Jacob Hommel	.....
North Bradley	"	1888	....	.....	.....
Orr School	"	1906	....	.....	.....
Ash Center	Monroe	....	1924	.....	Claude B. Greenman
Blaubush .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Exeter .....	"	....	1920	.....	Philip H. Pohly
Gibraltar .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Junction .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Kostens .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Oakville	"	1877	....	.....	.....
Ottawa Lake .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Plank Road	"	1886	....	.....	.....
Neriah .....	"	....	1934	.....	Harold D. Oeschger
South Raisenville ..	"	1873*	....	Chandler S. Brown	.....
Strasburg .....	"	....	1930	.....	Cletus A. Parker
Schauers .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Amey's	Mont- calm	....	....	.....	.....
Gowen .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Laingston .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Six Lakes .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Notmal .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Ensley School	Newago	....	....	.....	.....
Crystal Lake	Oceana	....	....	.....	.....
Hart	"	1886	1891	M. W. Snyder	C. Van Denmark
Shelby	"	1897	1901	Wesley B. Oldt	Hiram Spitler
Major School .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
School (unnamed) ..	"	....	....	.....	.....
School (unnamed) ..	"	....	....	.....	.....
Ogemaw	Ogemaw	1913	1916	.....	S. A. Andrews
West Branch .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Stillwagon	"	1913	....	.....	.....
Johnson School	Osceola	1907*	....	Chas. Rodesiler	.....
Leroy	"	1885	....	.....	.....
Peters School .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Nolan	Roscom- mon	....	....	.....	.....
St. Helens	"	1906	1907	Edward A. Perone	E. A. Perone
Bridgehampton	Sanilac	1913	1916	.....	S. A. Andrews
Carsonville .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Forestville	"	1878*	1912	Wm. Berge	George Bates
Lexington	"	1878	....	F. Dietrich	.....
Elmer	"	1884*	....	.....	.....

* See note on page 243.

<i>Name of Field</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Organ- ized</i>	<i>Lapsed</i>	<i>First Pastor</i>	<i>Last Pastor</i>
Marlette	Sanilac	1883*	....	F. E. Walter	.....
Pine Hill .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Richmondville .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Rupp .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Urban .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Freeland	Saginaw	1879*	....	Henry Schneider	.....
St. Charles .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Byron	Shiawas-				
	see	1869*	1898	Christian Ude	J. E. Holsaple
Bennington	"	1864*	1907	John Meck	Philip H. Pohly
Lennon .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Nicholson	"	1921	1922	John W. LeVan	John W. LeVan
Burr Oak	St. Jo-				
	seph	1886*	....	.....	.....
Canada	"	1888*	....	.....	.....
Colon	"	1869*	1904	Chandler S. Brown	.....
Constantine	"	1869*	....	E. B. Miller	.....
Fawn River	"	1886*	....	Wm. H. Wagner	.....
Flat Bush	"	1846	1894	George Kaag	.....
Florence	"	1872*	....	Samuel Copley	.....
Gottschalk .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Fisher's Lake	"	1848*	....	George Doll	.....
Klinger Lake .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Mt. Zion .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Pine Grove .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Riverside .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Sturgis	"	1925	1926	Myron R. Everett	M. R. Everett
Three Rivers	"	1884	1885	S. P. Krause	S. P. Krause
Waukesha	"	1869*	....	Chandler S. Brown	.....
Webbs .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
White Pigeon	"	1925	1926	Myron R. Everett	M. R. Everett
North Capac	St. Clair	....	1928	.....	August R. Kuehn
Port Huron .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
South Greenwood .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
West Greenwood	"	1905	1925	Chas. Rodesiler	Earnest Haines
Ellington	Tuscola	1875*	....	Wm. Berge	.....
Fremont	"	1864	....	C. Deike	.....
Bangor	Van				
	Buren	1866*	1884	Martin Alspach	John Miller
Keeler	"	1866*	1913	Martin Alspach	Edward C. Braun
South Haven	"	1870*	....	E. B. Miller	.....
West Bangor	"	1884*	1921	.....	Geo. E. Hall
Chelsea	Wash-				
	tenaw	....	....	.....	.....
Dexter	"	1892*	....	Nicholas Wunderlich	.....
Freedom	"	1845	....	Geo. Kaag	.....
Lima Center .....	"	....	1932	.....	Frederick W. Kirn
Manchester	"	1905	1917	Philip Pohly	Henry G. Bushong
Mollenkamps .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Saline .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Ypsilanti	"	1845	1879	George Kaag	Henry Schneider
Vedders	"	1887	....	.....	.....
Detroit (First)	Wayne	1856	1917	Benjamin Keller	Chas. F. Giese
Hand Station .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Sumpter .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Plymouth	"	1859	....	John P. Schnatz	.....
Taylor Center .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Wayne	"	1859	....	John P. Schnatz	.....
Harlan	Wexford	1917	....	.....	R. Farner
Wexford .....	"	....	1938	.....	R. Farner

* See note on page 243.

INDIANA AND OHIO

<i>Name of Field</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Organ- ized</i>	<i>Lapsed</i>	<i>First Pastor</i>	<i>Last Pastor</i>
Trout Creek .....	?	....	....	.....	.....
Scotts .....	?	....	....	.....	.....
Mt. Olive	?	1918?	1935	W. D. Hayes	Edgar L. Marsh
Woodbridge .....	?	....	....	.....	.....
South Fremont	Steuben	....	....	.....	.....
East Fremont .....	"	....	1920	.....	Otto N. Braun
Sondright .....	?	....	....	.....	.....
Olds .....	?	....	....	.....	.....
Brod	?	1865*	....	.....	.....
Stipe	Williams	....	....	.....	.....
Smiths	" ?	1868*	....	.....	.....
Brockville	?	1865*	....	.....	.....
Zobsts	?	1865*	....	.....	.....
Eisenhauers'	?	1865*	....	.....	.....
Hartman	Fulton	....	1899	.....	.....
Pettisville .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Climer School .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Sayers School .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Salem .....	"	....	1905	.....	.....
St. Paul's .....	"	....	1923	.....	Roy J. Striffler
Old Bethel .....	"	....	1896	.....	.....
New Bethel .....	"	....	1929	.....	C. S. Harrington
Heffelbowers .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Emmanuel .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Ebenezer .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Monclova	Lucas	1865*	....	.....	.....
Wernert's (Herbster) .....	"	....	....	.....	.....
Providence	"	1889*	....	.....	.....
Billings	"	1865*	....	.....	.....
Kleins'	"	1865	....	.....	.....

* See note on page 243.

ACTIVITIES MAP SHOWING ALL EXISTING CHURCHES, ALL ABANDONED PREACHING PLACES AND ALL SITES OF FORMER AND PRESENT CAMP MEETINGS AND BUSH MEETINGS HELD BY THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN MICHIGAN CONFERENCE TERRITORY



HISTORICAL CHART OF THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

PREPARED BY REV. W. H. WATSON

- KEY
- PRESENT CHURCHES
 - ABANDONED PREACHING PLACES
 - CAMP & GROVE MEETINGS

SECTION VII

DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

- 1867: M. J. Miller, J. Meck, A. Nicolai.
1871: J. Meck, M. J. Miller, A. Nicolai, J. M. Haug.
1875: J. M. Haug, J. Meck, S. Copley.
1879: S. Copley, J. M. Haug, J. Frankhauser, J. M. Fuchs, J. Meck.
1883: J. M. Haug, S. Copley, S. Heininger, J. M. Fuchs, E. Weiss.
1887: G. A. Hettler, S. Copley, E. Weiss, J. Meck, J. M. Haug, C. C. Staffeld.
1891: G. A. Hettler, C. C. Staffeld, J. A. Frye, H. Schneider, J. G. Haller, W. A. Koehler.
1895: G. A. Hettler, F. Klump, W. A. Koehler, J. A. Frye, E. Weiss, H. T. Strauch.
1899: G. J. Kirn, G. A. Hettler, W. A. Koehler, J. A. Frye, F. Klump, A. Halmhuber.
1903: G. J. Kirn, J. A. Frye, G. A. Hettler, F. C. Berger, A. Halmhuber, W. A. Koehler.
1907: F. C. Berger, J. A. Frye, F. Klump, G. A. Hettler, Geo. Johnson, A. Halmhuber, G. J. Kirn, W. A. Koehler.
Lay Delegates: H. S. Faust, L. B. Rough.
1911: J. R. Niergarth, F. Klump, G. A. Hettler, Geo. Koehler, J. M. Nyce, W. C. Swenk, J. A. Frye.
Lay Delegates: J. W. Miller, H. S. Faust.
1915: J. M. Nyce, J. R. Niergarth, Geo. Koehler, E. G. Frye, F. C. Berger, G. A. Hettler, W. C. Swenk.
Lay Delegates: Theo. Hutt, G. I. Frye, Irving Miller.
1919: W. H. Watson, W. C. Swenk, J. R. Niergarth, J. M. Nyce, F. C. Berger, C. B. Stroh, G. Knechtel.
Lay Delegates: Joshua Braun, E. F. Young, J. W. Miller.
Special General Conference of Evangelical Association in October, 1922, called to vote on Merger.
W. H. Watson, W. C. Swenk, J. R. Niergarth, J. M. Nyce, C. B. Stroh, G. Knechtel, H. I. Voelker.
Lay Delegates: Joshua Braun, E. F. Young, J. W. Miller.
1922: First General Conference of Merged Church: W. H. Watson, W. C. Swenk, J. R. Niergarth, J. M. Nyce, C. B. Stroh, G. Knechtel and H. I. Voelker.
Lay Delegates: Joshua Braun, E. F. Young, J. W. Miller, H. L. Hahn, F. D. Faist, D. Eckstein, M. L. Ackerman, W. A. Womer.
1926: C. C. Gibson, H. I. Voelker, G. Knechtel, W. H. Watson, E. S. Faust, E. G. Frye, E. D. Riebel, G. H. Kellermann, J. M. Nyce.
Lay Delegates: C. M. Cook, H. L. Hahn, W. A. Hammond, F. D. Faist, G. I. Schellig, J. W. Miller, E. E. Ludwig, Moses Braun, E. F. Young.
1930: W. H. Watson, C. C. Gibson, C. A. Wilkie, E. S. Faust, G. H. Kellermann, D. C. Ostroth, G. Knechtel, H. I. Voelker, E. G. Frye.
Lay Delegates: C. M. Cook, H. L. Hahn, D. Nieb, W. A. Hammond, R. C. Saxton, M. L. Ackerman, J. W. Miller, W. Kurth, C. Kaechele.

1934: W. H. Watson, E. S. Faust, C. A. Wilkie, C. C. Gibson, G. H. Keller-
mann, D. C. Ostroth, F. W. Kirn, E. G. Frye, J. R. Niergarth.

Lay Delegates: C. M. Cook, G. I. Schellig, Geo. Reamer, E. E. Ludwig,
E. G. Mistele, W. A. Womer, C. Kaechele, G. I. Frye, R. C. Gamble. (W.
Kurth sat in the place of E. G. Mistele.)

1938: W. H. Watson, E. S. Faust, D. C. Ostroth, C. C. Gibson, W. Koteskey,
F. W. Kirn, A. E. Kurth, C. A. Wilkie. Due to illness, D. C. Ostroth did not
attend. J. R. Niergarth sat in his place. (E. G. Frye sat in two sessions in the
place of C. C. Gibson and J. R. Niergarth.)

Lay Delegates: E. E. Ludwig, G. I. Schellig, C. M. Cook, R. E. Gustafson,
Mose Braun, George Reamer, E. B. Breithaupt, R. J. Steeby. (W. A. Womer
was seated in the place of C. M. Cook from Monday to Friday of the last
week.)

SECTION VIII

PRESIDING ELDER DISTRICTS AND THE PRESIDING ELDERS OR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED THEM

1864-66

Detroit DistrictD. Strohman
St. Joseph District ... Andrew Nicolai

1866-68

Detroit DistrictM. J. Miller
St. Joseph District ...A. Nicolai

1868-70

Detroit DistrictA. Nicolai
St. Joseph District ...M. J. Miller

1870-72

Adrian DistrictA. Nicolai
St. Joseph District ...M. J. Miller
Flint DistrictJohn Meck

1872-73

Adrian DistrictL. Scheuerman
St. Joseph District ...M. J. Miller
Flint DistrictJohn Meck

1873-74

Adrian DistrictL. Scheuerman
St. Joseph District ...S. Copley
Flint DistrictJohn Meck

1874-75

Detroit DistrictJohn Meck
St. Joseph District ...L. Scheuerman
Saginaw DistrictJ. M. Haug

1875-78

Detroit DistrictE. Weiss
St. Joseph District ...S. Copley
Saginaw DistrictJ. M. Haug

1878-79

Monroe DistrictE. Weiss
Three Rivers District.S. Copley
Flint DistrictJ. M. Haug
Ionia DistrictJ. M. Fuchs

1879-80

Monroe DistrictS. Copley
Three Rivers District.J. Frankhauser
Flint DistrictJ. M. Haug
Ionia DistrictJ. M. Fuchs

1880-82

Monroe DistrictS. Copley
Flint DistrictJ. M. Haug
Ionia DistrictJ. M. Fuchs

1882-84

Monroe DistrictJ. H. Keeler
Flint DistrictS. Copley
Ionia DistrictJ. M. Haug
N. Michigan District .F. Mueller

1884-86

Monroe DistrictJ. H. Keeler
Ionia DistrictJ. M. Haug
N. Michigan District .F. Mueller
Detroit DistrictS. Copley

1886-90

Monroe DistrictS. Copley
Flint DistrictC. C. Staffeld
St. Joseph District ...G. A. Hettler
Reed City District ...E. Weiss

1890-91

Monroe DistrictC. C. Staffeld
St. Joseph District ...J. A. Frye
Flint DistrictG. A. Hettler
Reed City District ...S. Copley

1891-92

St. Joseph District ...J. A. Frye
Monroe DistrictC. C. Staffeld
Reed City District ...H. Schneider
Flint DistrictG. A. Hettler

1892-93

St. Joseph District ... J. A. Frye
 Detroit District C. C. Staffeld
 Flint District G. A. Hettler
 Reed City District ... H. Schneider

1893-94

St. Joseph District ... J. A. Frye
 Detroit District C. C. Staffeld
 Flint District G. A. Hettler
 Reed City District ... F. Klump

1894-97

St. Joseph District ... W. A. Koehler
 Detroit District G. A. Hettler
 Flint District J. A. Frye
 Reed City District ... F. Klump

1897-98

St. Joseph District ... W. A. Koehler
 Reed City District ... J. A. Frye
 Detroit District G. A. Hettler
 Flint District F. Klump

1898-1901

St. Joseph District ... G. A. Hettler
 Grand Rapids District. J. A. Frye
 Detroit District W. A. Koehler
 Flint District G. J. Kirn

1901-02

St. Joseph District ... G. A. Hettler
 Detroit District J. A. Frye
 Flint District G. J. Kirn
 Grand Rapids District. F. C. Berger

1902-04

St. Joseph District ... G. J. Kirn
 Flint District G. A. Hettler
 Detroit District J. A. Frye
 Grand Rapids District. F. C. Berger

1904-05

St. Joseph District ... F. Klump
 Grand Rapids District. F. C. Berger
 Flint District G. A. Hettler
 Detroit District J. A. Frye

1905-08

St. Joseph District ... J. A. Frye
 Grand Rapids District. G. A. Hettler
 Flint District F. C. Berger
 Detroit District F. Klump

1908-09

St. Joseph District ... J. A. Frye
 Grand Rapids District. G. A. Hettler
 Flint District F. Klump
 Detroit District W. A. Koehler

1909-10

St. Joseph District ... G. A. Hettler
 Grand Rapids District. J. A. Frye
 Flint District F. Klump
 Detroit District W. A. Koehler

1910-11

St. Joseph District ... Geo. Koehler
 Grand Rapids District. J. R. Niergarth
 Flint District F. Klump
 Detroit District W. A. Koehler

1911-12

St. Joseph District ... Geo. Koehler
 Grand Rapids District. J. R. Niergarth
 Flint District F. Klump
 Detroit District G. A. Hettler

1912-14

St. Joseph District ... Geo. Koehler
 Grand Rapids District. J. R. Niergarth
 Flint District J. M. Nyce
 Detroit District G. A. Hettler

1914-15

Detroit District G. A. Hettler
 Flint District J. M. Nyce
 Grand Rapids District. Geo. Koehler
 St. Joseph District ... J. R. Niergarth

1915-16

Detroit District E. G. Frye
 Flint District J. M. Nyce
 Grand Rapids District. Geo. Koehler
 St. Joseph District ... J. R. Niergarth

1916-18

Detroit District J. M. Nyce
 Flint District W. C. Swenk
 Grand Rapids District. Geo. Koehler
 St. Joseph District ... J. R. Niergarth

1918-20

Detroit District J. M. Nyce
 Flint District J. R. Niergarth
 Grand Rapids District. W. H. Watson
 St. Joseph District ... W. C. Swenk

1920-24

Detroit DistrictW. H. Watson
 Flint DistrictG. Knechtel
 Grand Rapids District..H. I. Voelker
 St. Joseph District ...W. C. Swenk

1924-26

Detroit DistrictW. H. Watson
 Flint DistrictG. Knechtel
 Grand Rapids District..H. I. Voelker
 St. Joseph District ...C. B. Stroh

1926-28

Bay City DistrictG. Knechtel
 Detroit DistrictC. C. Gibson
 Kalamazoo District ...H. I. Voelker

1928-34

Bay City DistrictC. A. Wilkie
 Detroit DistrictC. C. Gibson
 Kalamazoo District ..W. H. Watson

1934-36

Bay City DistrictC. A. Wilkie
 Detroit DistrictW. H. Watson
 Kalamazoo District ..E. S. Faust

1936-38

Bay City DistrictD. C. Ostroth
 Detroit DistrictW. H. Watson
 Kalamazoo District ..E. S. Faust

NOTE: The periods indicated above are the periods in which there were no changes in district assignments.

Presiding elders or superintendents and the periods of service rendered.

Daniel Strohman, 1864-66—2 years. Resigned and returned to Ohio.

Andrew Nicolai, 1864-72—8 years.

M. J. Miller, 1866-73—7 years. Resigned.

John Meck, 1870-75—5 years. Resigned.

L. Scheuerman, 1872-75—3 years. Resigned.

S. Copley, 1873-74. Resigned. 1875-91. Total of 17 years.

J. M. Haug, 1874-86—12 years.

E. Weiss, 1875-79; 1886-90—8 years.

J. M. Fuchs, 1878-82—4 years.

J. Frankhauser, 1879-80—1 year. Resigned due to ill health.

J. H. Keeler, 1882-86—4 years.

F. Mueller, 1882-86—4 years.

G. A. Hettler, 1886-1910; 1911-15—28 years.

C. C. Staffeld, 1886-94—8 years.

J. A. Frye, 1890-1910—20 years.

H. Schneider, 1891-93—2 years. Withdrew from Church.

F. Klump, 1893-98; 1904-12—13 years. Resigned, 1898.

W. A. Koehler, 1894-1901; 1908-11—10 years. Resigned 1901 and 1911.

G. J. Kirn, 1898-1904—6 years. Resigned.

F. C. Berger, 1901-08—7 years. Resigned.

J. R. Niergarth, 1910-20—10 years. Resigned.

Geo. Koehler, 1910-18—8 years.

J. M. Nyce, 1912-20—8 years.

E. G. Frye, 1915-16—1 year. Resigned to accept editorship.

W. C. Swenk, 1916-24—8 years.

W. H. Watson, 1918-26; 1928—An incumbent in 1940.

G. Knechtel, 1920-28—8 years.

H. I. Voelker, 1920-28—8 years.

C. B. Stroh, 1924-26—2 years. Deposed.

C. C. Gibson, 1926-34—8 years.

C. A. Wilkie, 1928-36—8 years.

E. S. Faust, 1934—An incumbent in 1940.

D. C. Ostroth, 1936-1940—4 years.

Wm. Koteskey, 1940—An incumbent in 1940.

SECTION IX

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

We have compiled a condensed biographical sketch for every minister connected with the Conference since its organization. As far as possible, blanks for the tabulation of biographical information were sent to every living minister holding, or having held, membership in the conference and to surviving relatives of deceased ministers. A good percentage of the blanks have been returned with the desired information. From many no reply has been received. These have been indicated in the list of biographies. In such instances, available information has been used though often quite incomplete and inadequate. The sketches are brought to and including the 1941 appointments.

Biographical Sketches—Ministers

* Indicates that a blank has not been filled out and full information is not available.

* ADAMS, ROBERT—Received by credentials, 1921. Did not serve actively in the conference. Name removed from roll in 1931.

ALBIG, ORVILLE M., A.B., A.M.—Born March 29, 1882, Monroe, Mich. Licensed by Illinois Conference. Credentials to Michigan Conference in 1920. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1922; itinerancy, 1920. Professor of Greek at North Central College, eight years. Pastorates: Pontiac (Calvary), 1919-21; Lansing, 1921-24.

ALLES, EZRA L.—Born November 12, 1854, at Grove, N. Y. Died February 4, 1935, at Detroit. Burial in Detroit. Recommended by First church, Detroit. Licensed by the Michigan Conference, 1887. Never under appointment. Trustee of local church for 53 years.

ALLES, PETER—Born June 10, 1829, Hessen, Germany. Died September 21, 1892. Burial, Sebringville, Ont. Recommended by Sebringville congregation. Licensed by New York Conference, 1851. Ordained by Bishop Seybert. Credentials to Michigan, 1884. Pastorates: Lyons, N. Y.; Waterloo, Ont.; Grove Circuit, N. Y.; Syracuse, Liverpool, Lincoln Circuit, Ont.; Buffalo Station; Buffalo, Mission (1862-64, inactive due to illness). Became charter member of Canada Conference in 1864. Served: St. Jacobs, 2 years; Markham, 2 years; Carrick, 3 years; presiding elder, Hamilton District, 4 years; Waterloo District, 4 years. Pastor: Waterloo, 3 years. Credentials to Michigan, 1884; Sebawaing, 1887-89. Lived at Reed City and served Scottville for a brief period. Secretary of New York and Canada Conferences. A delegate to General Conference.

ALSPACH, MICHAEL—Born December 4, 1812, Union County, Pa. Died August 21, 1886, Minneapolis, Minn. Burial at Minneapolis. Recommended by Monclova church, probably. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1855. Or-

daind deacon, 1857; elder, 1859. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Took credentials, 1867. Pastorates: Ohio Conference, 1855-56; Indiana Conference, St. Joseph Circuit, 1856-57; St. Joseph and Calhoun, 1857-58; Elkhart, 1858-59; DeKalb, 1859-60; St. Marys, 1860-61; Berrien Circuit, 1861-62; Fulton Circuit, 1862-63; Cicero, 1863-64; Michigan Conference, Lima, 1864-65; St. Joseph Circuit, 1865-66; Berrien Circuit, 1866-67. Credentials: Served in Illinois and Kansas Conferences. Thirty-one years of active service.

* ANDERSON, LESLIE R.—Licensed, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1923. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorate: St. Joseph, 1921-25. Died, 1927.

* ANDREWS, A. S.—Received by credentials from Free Methodist in 1914. Never under appointment in the Michigan Conference. Died in 1928.

ANDREWS, CHARLES—Born, November 21, 1869, Sunfield, Ohio. Died, December 3, 1927. Burial at Caledonia. Licensed by the United Brethren church. Served pastorates at Lowell and Walton. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1922. Never under appointment in Michigan Conference.

ARMSTRONG, FRANK E.—Born June 24, 1857, Jackson County, Michigan. Died February 23, 1916. Burial at Moore Park, Mich. Licensed by Free Methodist church. Pastorates at Napoleon, Milan, Blissfield and Quincy in Free Methodist church. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1898. Pastorates: Pomona, 1898-99; South Rockwood, 1899-1902; Nashville, 1902-04; Delta, 1904-05; Wauseon, 1905-06; Petoskey, 1906-11; Grand Rapids (First), 1911-13; Buchanan, 1913-14; Park, 1914-16.

ARTHUR, E. B.—Born October 30, 1834, at Chautauqua, N. Y. Died at Scottville, Mich., April 9, 1910. Burial at Scottville. Licensed by Pittsburg Conference, 1866. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1880. Served three years as chaplain in Civil War. Twenty years in active pastorate. Pastorates in Michigan: West Unity, 1880-82; Fulton Circuit, 1882-84.

BAILEY, HARLEY F.—Born September 28, 1913, at Scottville, Mich. Recommended by Petoskey church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1939. Pastor: Leelenau, 1939-.

BAILEY, FRANK H.—Born August 21, 1865, Hillsdale County, Mich. Licensed by North Ohio Conference of United Brethren church in 1888. Served as pastor in the United Brethren church and later as an evangelist in Methodist Episcopal church. Credentials from Methodist Episcopal church to Michigan Conference, Evangelical church, 1899. Itinerancy, 1901; elder, 1902. Pastorates: Maple Grove, 1900-02; Eureka, 1902-05; Riverton, 1905-07; Gladwin, 1908-09; Marcellus, 1909-11; Pomona, 1911-13; Fowlerville, 1915-17; Mt. Pleasant, 1917-19; Verona, 1919-20; Coleman, 1920-21; Imlay City, 1921-23; Snover, 1923-25; Greenwood, 1925-26.

* BAILEY, EARL F.—Licensed, 1916. Pastorate: Lenox, 1917-18.

BAILEY, EDWARD F.—Born April 27, 1889, Sears, Mich. Recommended by Salem Class, Coleman Charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Ordained deacon, 1923; elder, 1925. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorates: Mt. Pleasant, 1920-24; Gladwin, 1924-29; Whitehouse, 1929-31; Riverton, 1931-33; Petoskey, 1933-39; Owosso, 1939-.

BAILEY, OREN M.—Born March 29, 1906, in Mason County, Mich. Recommended by Caro Congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1933. Ordained deacon, 1936; elder, 1938. Itinerancy, 1936. Graduate of Evangelical

- Theological Seminary. Pastorates: Student pastor, Sublette, Ill., 2 years; Michigan Conference, Horton Bay, 1936-40; Mt. Pleasant (First), 1940-.
- *BALDWIN, GUY B.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1919. Deacon, 1921; Itinerancy, 1921. Took credentials, 1925. Pastorates: Maple Grove, 1919-20; Marshall, 1920-21; Chesaning, 1921-24.
- BALL, GLENN B.—Born January 29, 1901, Pomona, Mich. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Pomona congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Ordained deacon, 1929; elder, 1931. Itinerancy, 1929. Supply at Honor Congregational church, three months. Pastorates: Michigan Conference, East Gilead, 1927 (six months); Scottville, 1928-33; Evart, 1933-39; Kilmanagh, 1939-.
- BAKER, GEORGE H., A.B., A.M.—Born January 1, 1898; Bay City, Mich. Recommended by Bay City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Never under appointment. Withdrawn, 1939.
- *BAKER, JAMES D.—Licensed, 1887. Never under appointment.
- BANDEEN, W. T.—Born May 22, 1885, Bowling Green, Ohio. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Chippewa class, Mt. Pleasant Charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1927. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Fremont, 1924-27; Ida, 1927-28; Detroit (Calvary), 1928-30; Jackson (Greenwood), 1930-33; Bay City, 1933-37; Kalamazoo, 1937-41; Capac, 1941-.
- *BANNICK, EDWARD—Licensed, 1919. Withdrawn, 1926. Never under appointment.
- BAYLIS, FRANK H.—Born May 16, 1874, at Hudson, Mich. Recommended by Blissfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1896. Ordained deacon, 1901; elder, 1904. Itinerancy, 1901. Pastorates: Blissfield, 1896-97; Coleman, 1900-01; Pomona, 1901-03; Petoskey, 1903-06. Withdrawn, 1906.
- *BARNHART, J. J.—Received by credentials, 1884. Pastorates: Litchfield, 1884-85; Blissfield, 1885-86; Erie, 1886-87; Monroe, 1887-88. Took credentials, 1888.
- BASSETT, WENDELL C.—Born July 13, 1909, at Nashville, Mich. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Lansing congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1933. Ordained deacon, 1935; elder, 1937. Itinerancy, 1935. Pastorates: Student pastorate, Symerton, Ill., 1933-35. Michigan Conference: Marcellus, 1935-38; Nashville, 1938-.
- BATES, GEORGE L.—Born October 3, 1861, Elgin County, Ontario. Recommended by Hope class, Coleman charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1911. Ordained deacon, 1917. Pastorates: Ogemaw, 1911-12; Verona, 1912-15; Pomona, 1915-18. Deposed, 1918.
- BAUMAN, ARTHUR C.—Born October 9, 1889, Howard City, Mich. Recommended by Maple Hill class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1924; elder, 1926. Itinerancy, 1924. Pastorates: Leroy, 1921-22; Evart, 1922-26; Benton Harbor, 1926-32; Detroit (Kercheval), 1932-.
- *BECK (or BERG?) JOHN—Licensed, 1867. No further word.
- *BECKER, J. D.—Licensed 1887. Pastor: Fremont, 1887-88. Withdrawn, 1891.

- BEERS, MAURICE C.—Born January 12, 1899, Mason, Michigan. Recommended by Lansing congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Ordained deacon, 1926; elder, 1932. Itinerancy, 1926. Pastorates: Chesaning, 1924-November, 1930; Kilmanagh, November, 1930-39; Snover, 1939-.
- BELKNAP, BYRON E.—Born May 12, 1864, Erie County, N. Y. Recommended by Traverse City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1909. Ordained deacon, 1912; elder, 1915. Itinerancy, 1912. Pastorates: Pomona, 1909-11; Hortons Bay, 1911-14; Eureka, 1914-18; Riverton, 1918-21; Maple Grove, 1921-23; Erie, 1923-26; Whittaker, 1926-31.
- BELKNAP, GEORGE A., B.S.L.—Born June 1, 1915. Recommended by Horton Bay class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1938. Pastorates: East Detroit (Asst.), 1938-39; East Detroit, 1939-40.
- * BERG, PETER—Licensed, 1873. Ordained deacon, 1876. Itinerancy, 1875. Pastorates: St. Joseph Mission, 1873-74; Litchfield, 1874-75; Traverse City Mission, 1875-77; Maple Hill, 1877-78.
- BERGE, WILLIAM—Born April 29, 1838, Hespeler, Ont. Died July 20, 1915. Buried at Benton Harbor. Recommended by Burnside class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1873. Ordained deacon, 1874; elder, 1876. Itinerancy, 1873. Pastorates: Sebewaing, 1873-74; Tuscola, 1874-75; Fremont, 1875-76; Sanilac, 1876-78; Forestville, 1878-79; Hersey, 1879-82; St. Joseph, 1882-83; Caledonia, 1887-88; Bainbridge, 1888-91; Sebewaing, 1891-94; Flint, 1894-97; Elkton, 1897-1901; Owosso, 1901-05; Cass City, 1905-08; Woodland, 1908-12.
- BERGER, FRANK C.—Born September 16, 1861, Lima, Ind. Recommended by Lima class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1885. Ordained deacon, 1887; elder, 1889. Itinerancy, 1886. Pastorates: Monroe Circuit, 1885-86; Jackson, 1886-89; Park Circuit, 1889-92; Monroe, 1892-95; Buchanan, 1895-99; St. Joseph, 1899-1901. Presiding elder: Grand Rapids District, 1901-05; Flint District, 1905-08. President of Michigan State Sunday-school Association, 1904-05. General secretary of Young People's Alliance and Sunday Schools, Evangelical Church, 1907-19. Delegate to General Conference, 1903, 1907, 1915, 1919, 1926. Author of "Young People's Alliance Manual," and numerous pamphlets. Associate compiler of "Gospel Melodies." Attended World's Sunday-school conventions at Jerusalem and Zurich, Switzerland. Credentials to Indiana Conference in 1920.
- BERGER, HENRY C.—Born at Centerville, Pa. Died March 2, 1918. Burial at Lindsey, Ohio. Graduate of College and Seminary at New Berlin, Pa. Licensed by Central Pa. Conference, 1871. Credentials to Michigan, 1880. Pastorates: Park, 1880-81; Lima, 1881-84. Took credentials in 1884. Served in Ohio Conference.
- * BICKNELL, I. J.—Received by credentials from Methodist Episcopal church, 1911. Died, 1919. Served as a supply on Marshall charge.
- BINGAMAN, ARTHUR L.—Born March 17, 1889, at Penn's Creek, Pa. Recommended by West Mendon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1923; elder, 1925. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorates: Battle Creek, November 1920-21; Royalton, 1921-25; Nashville, 1925-31; Ionia, 1931-36; Grand Rapids (First), 1936-39; Benton Harbor, 1939-. Treasurer of Conference Deaconess Society, 1926-.

BINDER, DANIEL F.—Born September 18, 1892, at Ruth, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Forestville class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1913. Ordained deacon, 1915; elder, 1917. Itinerancy, 1915. Pastorates: Coleman, 1913-14; Scottville, 1914 (April to October); Brown City (October), 1914-17; Owendale, 1917-18; Wauseon, 1918-19; Pigeon, 1919-22; Reed City, 1922-24; (Elmhurst, Ill., student pastorate), 1924-26; Elkton, 1926-28; Flint (First), 1928-33; Dearborn, 1933-. Member of Conference Board of Christian Education, 1931-39; vice-president, Conference Missionary Society; president, Conference Missionary Society, 1933-, treasurer of Conference Deaconess Society.

BINDER, WILLIAM F.—Born October 14, 1845; at Wurtemberg, Germany. Died November 5, 1883. Burial at Cass City. Recommended by Forestville class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1878. Ordained deacon, 1880; elder, 1882. Itinerancy, 1879. Pastorates: Burnside, 1878-80; Cass City, 1880-82; Petoskey, 1882-83.

* BISHOP, W. H.—Licensed, 1890. Expelled, 1898.

* BISHOP, W. H.—Licensed, 1911. Withdrawn, 1914. Pastorates: Whitaker, 1911-12; Fowlerville, 1912-13.

BITTNER, JOHN M.—Born March 16, 1856, at Adrian, Mich. Died November 22, 1935. Buried at South Whiteford. Recommended by Jackson congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1886. Ordained deacon, 1888; elder, 1890. Itinerancy, 1888. Pastorates: Petoskey, 1887-89; Traverse City, 1889-92; Pinora, 1892-93; Flint, 1893-94; Sebewaing, 1894-96; Cass City, 1896-97; Verona, 1899-1900; Caledonia, 1900-02; Bay City, 1902-04; Lenox, 1904-06; South Rockwood, 1906-08; Oregon, 1908-11; Owendale, 1911-12.

BITTNER, PETER—Born January 12, 1848. Buried at Mt. Scott, Oregon. Recommended by Hersey church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1874. Ordained deacon, 1876; elder, 1878. Itinerancy, 1875. Pastorates: Owosso Circuit, 1874-75; St. Joseph Circuit, 1876-78. Lansing Circuit, 1878-79; Ionia, 1881-83. Took credentials, 1880. (Records not in harmony. W. H. W.)

BLANCHARD, VERNE A.—Born August 23, 1892 at Epsilon, Mich. Died February 2, 1917. Buried at Petoskey. Recommended by Epsilon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1914. Pastorates: Evart, 1914-15; Wauseon, 1916-17.

* BLACK, JAMES R.—Licensed, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1922. Never under appointment.

BLIZZARD, MERVIN E.—Born April 20, 1817, Newark, Ohio. Died August 27, 1904. Buried at Wauseon, Ohio (?). Came with credentials from Methodist Episcopal church in 1877. Local preacher in Michigan Conference.

* BLOCHER, A. B.—Licensed, 1873. Never under appointment.

* BOAS, ELIAS—Local deacon, 1865. Only information available.

BOETTCHER, CLARENCE W., A.B.—Born September 14, 1910, Imlay City, Mich. Recommended by Ionia congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1928. Returned license, 1934. Never under appointment.

BOETTCHER, WILLIAM F.—Born December 17, 1876, Lapeer County, Mich. Recommended by Moore class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1909. Ordained deacon, 1912; elder, 1928. Itinerancy, 1912. Pastorates: Chesaning, 1909-10; Imlay City, 1910-12; Woodland, 1912-14; Detroit (First), 1914-16; Maple Hill, 1916-19; Greenwood, 1919-22; Owendale, 1922-26; Ionia, 1926-31; Buchanan, 1931-35; Caro, 1935-39; Ogden, 1939-. Conference Treasurer Episcopal Fund for 6 years.

BOGEN, ADOLPH E.—Born August 20, 1856 on the Atlantic Ocean. Died September 1, 1930. Burial LeMars, Iowa. Recommended by Ionia congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1888. Itinerancy, 1885. Pastorates: Maple Hill, 1884-85; St. Louis, 1885-86; Traverse City, 1886-89; Maple Hill, 1889-90; Carson City, 1890-91; Royalton, 1891-93; Cass City, 1893-95; Whitehouse, 1895-96. Credentials to Iowa Conference, 1896.

BOROUGH, JONAS—Born June 30, 1818, Bull Run, Virginia. Recommended by Hettler class, Flat Rock, Ohio. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1863. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Pastorates in Michigan Conference: Fulton Circuit, 1865-66; Ann Arbor, 1866-67; Fulton Circuit, 1867-69; Whitehouse, 1869-71; Fulton Circuit, 1871-72; Monroe Mission, 1875-77; Traverse City, 1880-81; Leelenau, 1881-83; Leelenau, 1891-92.

*BOYER, E.—Local probationer, 1868; ordained deacon, 1869. Itinerancy, 1869. Pastorates: Berrien Circuit, 1869-70; Portage Prairie, 1870-71. Withdrawn, 1878.

BRANNAN, HERMAN A., A.B.—Born April 19, 1905, West Unity, Ohio. Recommended by Clay's class, West Unity charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1927. Ordained deacon, 1933; elder, 1936. Itinerancy, 1933. Pastorates: Leelenau, 1934-39; Solon-Kasson, 1939-41; Ida, 1941-.

BRAUN, EDWARD C.—Born April 15, 1870, at Crediton, Ontario. Died August 13, 1936. Burial at Howell, Michigan. Recommended by Sebewaing congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1905. Ordained deacon, 1908; elder, 1913. Itinerancy, 1908. Pastorates: Oregon, 1906-08; Bainbridge, 1908-13; Leighton, 1913-17; Traverse City, 1917-22; Pigeon, 1922-26; South Rockwood, 1926-33; Howell, 1933-36; Carleton, 1936 (May to August).

BRAUN, OTTO N.—Born October 31, 1886. Recommended by Sebewaing class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1916. Ordained deacon, 1918; elder, 1920. Itinerancy, 1918. Pastorates: Erie, 1916-19; Fremont, 1919-24; Buchanan, 1924-26; Whitehouse, 1926-29; Owendale, 1929-36; Reed City, 1936-. Treasurer of Conference Fire Insurance Society, 1920-27.

BROOKINS, HERBERT D.—Born July 14, 1889, Mt. Eaton, Ohio. Recommended by Union class, Mt. Pleasant. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Credentials to Nebraska Conference, 1923. Ordained deacon, 1924; elder, 1926. Itinerancy, 1924. Returned to Michigan Conference by credentials, 1937. Served fourteen years as pastor in Nebraska Conference.

*BROMBERGER, D.—Licensed, 1870. No further information.

BROWN, CHANDLER S.—Born June 6, 1836, Compton, N. Y. Died April 28, 1904. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1865. Ordained deacon, 1867; elder, 1869. Itinerancy, 1866. Pastorates: Fulton Circuit, 1865-67; St. Joseph Circuit, 1867-69; Colon, 1869-71; Fremont, 1871-72; Colon, 1872-73;

- Monroe, 1873-76; Fremont, 1876-79; Litchfield, 1882-83; West Unity, 1883-84; Park, 1884-87; Fulton, 1887-89; Fremont, 1891-92.
- BROWN, D. C.—Received by credentials from Methodist Episcopal Church, 1912. Withdrawn, 1917. Pastorates: South Rockwood, 1912-13; Greenwood, 1913-14.
- BROWN, RAYMOND R.—Born January 16, 1890, Plainfield, Ill. Recommended by Lock Port, Illinois, class. To Michigan Conference by credentials. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1930. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Brown City, 1917 (nine months); Ferndale, 1918 (one year, two months); Wyandotte, 1923-26; Detroit (Twelfth Street), 1926-31; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1931-39; Lansing, 1939-. Chairman Conference Committee on Memorials. Hospital chaplain under Detroit Council of Churches. President Burton Heights Ministerial Association. President of Conference Missionary Society, 1929-33.
- BROWN, GEORGE—Born July 23, 1870, Williams Center, Ohio. Recommended by Petoskey congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1896. Ordained deacon, 1898; elder, 1900. Itinerancy, 1898. Pastorates: Petoskey, 1896-98; Maple Grove, 1898-1900; Eureka, 1900-02; Whiteford, 1902-05. Withdrawn 1906. United with M. E. Church.
- BROWN, WARREN—Born August 25, 1853, Ohio. Recommended by Scottville congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1891. Ordained deacon, 1893; elder, 1895. Itinerancy, 1893. Pastorates: North Bradley, 1891-92; Mt. Pleasant, 1892-94; Pomona, 1894-95; Petoskey, 1895-98; Portage Prairie, 1898-1901; Caro, 1901-05; Fremont, 1906-08; Carleton, 1908-10. Credentials 1911.
- BROMM, MIKE—Probationer, 1866. Withdrawn, 1872.
- BRUMM, CHARLES E.—Born September 28, 1865, Maple Grove, Mich. Recommended by Ionia congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1890. Ordained deacon, 1892. Itinerancy, 1892. Pastorates: Park, 1890-91; Bangor, 1891-92; Pomona, 1892-93. Withdrawn.
- BRUMM, LEWIS—Born March 6, 1834, Alsace Lorraine. Died January 19, 1913. Burial Nashville, Michigan. Recommended by North Maple Grove class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1871. Ordained deacon, 1873; elder, 1875. Itinerancy, 1873. Pastorates: Marshall, 1871-72; Owosso, 1872-73; Osceola, 1873-76; Flint Mission, 1876-79; Owosso, 1879-82; Woodland, 1882-84; Caledonia, 1884-87; Reed City, 1887-90; Owosso, 1890-93; Reed City, 1893-95; Blissfield, 1895-97; Capac, 1897-1901; Cass City, 1901-03.
- * BRUMM, PETER—Born April 17, 1817, Alsace Lorraine. Died June 1, 1886. Burial near Nashville (?). Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1875. Never under appointment.
- * BEAGLE, CHRISTOPH—Probationer, 1865. Elder, 1866. Died, 1875. Local preacher. Never under appointment.
- BULGRIN, WILLIAM A.—Born March 28, 1853, Germany. Died October 14, 1934. Burial Acacia Cemetery, Detroit. Recommended by Moore congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Ordained deacon, 1891; elder, 1893. Itinerancy, 1891. Pastorates: Forestville, 1889-92; Elkton, 1892-94; Imlay City, 1894-98; Greenwood, 1898-99; Lenox, 1899-1900; Dearborn, 1900-04; Saginaw, 1904-05; Woodland, 1905-08; Maple Hill,

- 1908-10. (Credentials to Texas 1910.) Returned to Michigan 1917. Imlay City, 1917-19.
- * BULL, A.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1894. License revoked, 1897. Never under appointment.
- BURCH, ARTHUR D.—Born February 6, 1885, Washtenaw County, Mich. Recommended by Sharon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Ordained deacon, 1922; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1922. Pastorates: Washtenaw, 1920-21 (assistant); Whitehouse, 1921-26; West Unity, 1926-33; Fremont-East Gilead, 1933-41; Carleton, 1941-.
- BURGESS, LOUIS E.—Born July 4, 1888, at Gregory, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Jackson (Greenwood Park) class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1927. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Jackson (Francis St.), December, 1920-23; East Gilead, 1923-25; Bainbridge, 1925-29; Kalamazoo, 1929-34; St. Joseph, 1934-. Member of Conference Board of Examiners.
- * BURKEY, L. F.—Recommended by Lebanon class, Wauseon charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1917. Ordained deacon, 1925. Itinerancy, 1925. Credentials to Wesleyan Church, 1928. Pastorates: Pomona, 1919-22; Gladwin, 1922-25; South Rockwood, 1924-26; Wyandotte, 1926-27.
- BUTZBACH, ALBERT H., A.B.—Born January 2, 1873, Bainbridge, Mich. Died September 10, 1926. Burial at Los Angeles, Calif. Recommended by Bainbridge congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1901. Ordained deacon, 1906; elder, 1908. Itinerancy, 1906. Missionary to China, 1903-17 and 1921-24. Pastorates: Owosso, 1917-19; Cass City, 1919-21; San Bernardino, Calif., 1925-26. Credentials to California Conference, 1926.
- * BURNS, J. C.—Received by credentials, 1902. Took credentials, 1903. Never under appointment.
- * BUSHONG, H. G.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1915. Ordained deacon, 1917. Itinerancy, 1917. Withdrawn, 1920. Pastorates: Manchester, 1915-16; Greenwood, 1916-19.
- * BUSHNELL, H. C.—Received by credentials, 1908. Took credentials, 1911. Never under appointment.
- BUXTON, VALENTINE—Born March 7, 1875, Barry County, Michigan. Died (?). Burial, Maple Grove, Michigan. Recommended by South Maple Grove class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1901. Ordained deacon, 1907. Took credentials, 1910. Pastorates: Coleman, 1901-02; Gladwin, 1902-05; Verona, 1905-08; Erie, 1908-10.
- CAMFIELD, WILLIAM H.—Born May 31, 1857, Alto, Michigan. Received by credentials from M. E. Church. Ordained deacon, 1900; elder, 1903. Itinerancy, 1900. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1899-1901; Park, 1901-03; Marshall, 1903-07; Jackson, 1907-12; St. Joseph, 1912-17; Niles, 1917-22; Detroit (Twelfth St.), 1922-26; Buchanan, 1926-29; Jackson (Francis St.), 1929-30; Sharon, 1930-34. President Conference Church Extension Society, 1909-20. Chairman of Committee on Sabbath and Temperance for several years.
- CARPENTER, WILLIAM H.—Born, 1841, at Delta, Michigan. Died 1924. Burial at Delta. Received by credentials from M. E. Church, 1918. Never under appointment.

- * CHANEY, O.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1898. Withdrawn, 1902. Pastorate: Verona, 1898-99.
- CHAMBERLAIN, LEROY E.—Born at Torch Lake, Michigan, August 22, 1897. Recommended by Boyne City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1923. Itinerancy, 1920. Pastorates: Evart, 1919-20; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1920-24; Ferndale, 1924-30; Leighton, 1932-. Did supply work, 1917-19. Superintendent of Public Welfare, City of Ferndale, 1929-32.
- * CLARK, ARCHIBALD—Received by credentials, 1899. Took credentials, 1905. Never under appointment.
- * CLEMENS, W.—Licensed, 1886. Ordained deacon, 1896. Itinerancy, 1896. Withdrawn, 1905. Pastorates: Lexington, 1895-97; Eureka, 1897-98.
- * CLEMENT, J. D.—Licensed, 1921. Withdrawn, 1926. Pastorate: Beaverton, 1921-22.
- * COLLEY, WILLARD—Born 1913 in Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1935. Never under appointment.
- * CONNERS, WALTER—Received by credentials, 1894. Moved away, 1896. Never under appointment.
- * COOK, I.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1886. No further information.
- COPLEY, SAMUEL—Born April 2, 1842, Wayne County, Ohio. Died March 12, 1914. Buried at Spokane, Washington. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1862. Entered Michigan Conference, 1865. Ordained deacon, 1868; elder, 1870. Itinerancy, 1866. Pastorates: Adrian Circuit, 1865-66; St. Joseph Circuit, 1866-67; Fremont Circuit, 1867-68; Monroe Circuit, 1868-70; Colon, 1870-71; St. Joseph Circuit, 1871-73; Monroe Mission, 1874-75; Marshall and Litchfield, 1895-96; Jackson, 1896-97. Served seventeen years as presiding elder: St. Joseph District, 1873-74; St. Joseph District, 1875-78; Three Rivers District, 1878-79; Monroe District, 1879-82; Flint District, 1882-84; Detroit District, 1884-86; Monroe District, 1886-90; Reed City District, 1890-91; Delegate to General Conference, 1875, 1879, 1883, 1887.
- CORMANY, SIMON—Born June 26, 1871, at Bristol, Indiana. Recommended by North Royalton class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1891. Withdrawn. Returned with credentials, 1916. Took credentials, 1920. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1915-16; Cass City, 1916-19; Wauseon, 1919-20.
- COSS, GEORGE W.—Born January 25, 1850, Tedrow, Ohio. Died June 10, 1933. Burial at Grand Rapids, Ohio. Received by credentials from U. B. Church, 1905. Took credentials, 1912. Pastorates: Delta, 1905-07; Erie, 1907-08.
- CROFF, SYLVESTER C.—Born March 16, 1854, Cortland, Illinois. Died November 18, 1914, at Lansing. Recommended by West Riverton class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1900. Ordained deacon, 1902; elder, 1904. Itinerancy, 1902. Pastorates: Horton Bay, 1901-02; Mt. Pleasant, 1902-05; Gladwin, 1905-06; Coleman, 1906-07; Maple Grove, 1907-09.
- CRABTREE, PAUL R.—Born July 8, 1904, Winfield, Tenn. Recommended by Kercheval Avenue church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1933. Pastorate: Hereford Avenue, Detroit, 1933-.

CROTHERS, WALTON—Born January 9, 1888, Cornwall, England. Recommended by Twelfth Street congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1926. Ordained deacon, 1929; elder, 1932. Itinerancy, 1929. Served several years as local preacher in Methodist Church of England. Pastorates: Wyandotte, 1927-30; Royalton, 1930-32; Carleton, 1932-36; Wauseon, 1936-.

* CUTTLER, S.—Local deacon, 1884. No further information available.

CURRIER, W. R.—Born November 10, 1870, Muskegeon, Michigan. Died April 24, 1908. Buried at Flint, Michigan. Received by credentials from Kansas Conference. Pastorates: St. Joseph, 1903-04; Ionia, 1904-07; Flint, 1907-08. Assistant secretary of conference.

* CURTIS, N. G.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1875. Withdrawn, 1880. Never under appointment.

DAHLSTROM, CARL—Born March 21, 1897, Big Rapids, Michigan. Recommended by Grand Rapids (First church). Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Withdrawn, 1926. Never under appointment.

DAVIS, T. N.—Born November 24, 1841, Washington County, Ohio. Died August 19, 1873. Buried at Gilead, Branch County, Michigan. Recommended by East Gilead congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference in 1868. Ordained deacon, 1872. Itinerancy, 1870. Pastorates: St. Joseph Circuit, 1870-71; Colon, 1871-72; Amboy, 1873 to August, 1873.

DAVIS, GLENN G.—Born February 3, 1903, Gladwin, Michigan. Recommended by Riley class, Gladwin charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1925. Credentials to Minnesota Conference, 1927. Pastorate: Horton Bay, 1926-27.

* DAVIDSON, W. H.—Licensed, 1899. Withdrawn, 1903. Pastorate: Horton Bay, 1899-1900.

* DAVISON, L. S.—Licensed, 1910. Withdrawn, 1921. Pastorates: Coleman, 1910-11; Royalton, 1911-12. Retired, 1912.

DEABLER, HERDIS L., B.A., S.T.B., Ph.D.—Born January 27, 1910, Howell, Michigan. Recommended by Traverse City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1931. Ordained deacon, 1936; elder, 1939. Itinerancy, 1936. Personnel secretary and instructor in psychology, North Central College.

DEABLER, JOHN S., B.A., D.D., M.A., Ph.D.—Born March 8, 1876. Recommended by Litchfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1900. Ordained deacon, 1903; elder, 1906. Itinerancy, 1903. Pastorates: Marshall-Litchfield, 1900-01; Wauseon, 1901-02; Carleton, 1902, April till September; Grand River Avenue (September, 1902, to conference, 1903); Niles, 1904 (November, 1904, to conference, 1905); Benton Harbor, 1905-08; Howell, 1908-10; Flint, 1910-14; Nashville, 1914-16; Ionia, 1916-20; Jackson (Greenwood), 1920-22; Ferndale, 1922-24; Reed City, 1924-29; Traverse City, 1929-32; Capac, 1932-36; Elkton, 1936-40; Woodland, 1940-. Member of Conference Board of Examiners, 1908 to present; Secretary of Board, 1908-12; President of Fire Insurance Society, 1920-34; Secretary of Committee on Memorials, 1931 to present.

DECKER, HENRY A.—Born March 30, 1852, Branch County, Michigan. Died April 15, 1921. Burial at Marshall, Michigan. Received by credentials from Congregational Church, 1901. Itinerancy, 1901. Pastorates: Grand

- Rapids (First), 1900-01; St. Joseph, 1901-03; Park, 1903-06; Marcellus, 1906-09; Blissfield, 1909-12; Scottville, 1912-14; Marshall, 1916-20.
- DEVRIES, ARTHUR C.—Born March 23, 1902, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Recommended by Mack Avenue congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1925. Ordained deacon, 1927; elder, 1929. Itinerancy, 1927. Pastorates: Detroit (Harper Avenue), 1925-27; Caro, 1927-30; Grand Rapids (First), 1930-36; Ionia, 1936-41; Niles, 1941-. Conference Statistician, 1931 to present.
- * DEWITT, E. K.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1869. Ordained deacon, 1874. Pastorates: Amboy, 1872-73; Fremont, 1873-74; Bangor, 1875-76. No other information available.
- DEIKE, CARL—Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Withdrawn, 1876. Pastorates: Genesee Mission, 1865-66; Mecosta, 1866-67; Osceola, 1867-68; Barry, 1868-70; Blissfield, 1870-72; Detroit, 1872-74.
- DIERLAMM, HENRY—Received by credentials from Canada Conference, 1911. Died April 24, 1912. Burial at Wallace, Ont.
- DIETRICH, FERDINAND—Born January 20, 1826, Hanover, Germany. Died April 24, 1900. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1871. Ordained deacon, 1873; elder, 1875. Itinerancy, 1873. Deposed, 1882. Pastorates: Burnside, 1872-74; Capac, 1874-76; Lexington, 1878-79; Maple Hill, 1879-80.
- * DIETRICH, J. C.—No information as how received. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1888. Itinerancy, 1885. Took credentials, 1891. Pastorates: Frankfort, 1885-86; St. Louis, 1886-88; Fremont, 1888-89; Marshall, 1889-90.
- * DILL, F. W.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Ordained deacon, 1891; elder, 1893. Itinerancy, 1891. Dismissed, 1926. Pastorates: Fisher, 1889-90; Maple Hill, 1890-93; Grand Rapids (First), 1893-94; New Troy, 1894-95; Capac, 1895-97; West Detroit, 1897-99; Detroit (First), 1899-1902; Saginaw, 1902-04; Elkton, 1908-09; Imlay City, 1914-15.
- DOLL, GEORGE—Born September 2, 1823, Hesse, Germany. Died 1913. Burial at Howe, Indiana. Charter member of Michigan Conference. Pastorates: Adrian Circuit, 1864-65; Ann Arbor Circuit, 1865-66; St. Joseph Circuit, 1866-68.
- DONNENWORTH, HERBERT H.—Born February, 1892, at Yale, Michigan. Recommended by West Greenwood class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1914. Ordained deacon, 1916; elder, 1922. Itinerancy, 1916. Credentials to Colorado Conference, 1922, due to ill health. Pastorates: Erie, 1914-16; Evart, 1916-19; Nashville, 1919—April to October. Held numerous offices in Colorado Conference.
- DRAKE, HURD A., B.A., M.A., D.D.—Born February 11, 1885, Pontiac, Michigan. Recommended by Blissfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1904. Credentials to Presbyterian Church, 1908. Pastorate: Carleton, 1906-08.
- * DRINKWATER, J.—Received by credentials, 1882. Died 1927. Pastorates: Fremont, 1882-83; Litchfield, 1883-84; West Unity, 1884-86; Litchfield, 1893-95.
- * DUTCHER, E. S.—Received by credentials from M. E. Church, 1911. Withdrawn, 1917. Pastorates: Whitehouse, 1911-13; Erie, 1913-14; Royalton, 1914-15.

- * EARLY, C. M.—Died, 1939. Recommended by Nashville congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1908. Deposed, 1921. Pastorates: Gladwin, 1909-10; Marshall, 1910-11; Whiteford, 1911-12.
- * EATON, L. B.—Received by credentials from M. E. Church, 1882. Died, 1889, aged 84. Never under appointment in Michigan Conference.
- * ENGEL, L.—Licensed, 1866. Itinerancy, 1866. Withdrawn, 1869. Pastorates: Adrian Circuit, 1866-67; Ann Arbor, 1867-68; Capac, 1868-69.
- * ERDMAN, F. E.—Received by credentials, 1878. Itinerancy, 1878. Ordained elder, 1880. Took credentials, 1882. Pastorates: LaSalle, 1878-79; Ida, 1879-80; Litchfield, 1880-82.
- ERICKSON, CHESTER, J.—Born November 8, 1904, at Niles, Michigan. Recommended by Niles congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1929. Never under appointment.
- * ERNST, NOAH R.—Recommended by Mack Avenue congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Never under appointment. Withdrawn, 1930.
- EVANS, EDWARD—Born May 30, 1833, Center County, Pa. Died May 31, 1917. Burial at Jewell City, Kansas. Received by credentials from Indiana Conference, 1868. Itinerancy, 1868. Pastorates: Berrien Circuit, 1868-69. Located 1869 due to ill health.
- EVERETT, GORDON D.—Born August 10, 1908, Sylvania, Ohio. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Silica congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1931. Ordained deacon, 1934; elder, 1936. Itinerancy, 1934. Pastorates: Jackson (Francis St.), 1933-41; Erie, 1941-.
- EVERETT, MYRON R., B.A., B.D.—Born September 1, 1899, Toledo, Ohio. Recommended by Silica congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1928; elder, 1930. Itinerancy, 1928. Pastorates: White Pigeon, 1925-26; Royalton, 1926-29; Niles, 1929-34; Benton Harbor, 1934-39; Grand Rapids (First), 1939-41; Jackson (Greenwood), 1941-.
- * EWING, I. H.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1898. Ordained deacon, 1900. Itinerancy, 1900. Withdrawn, 1906. Pastorates: Royalton, 1898-99; Bristol, 1899-1902; Whitehouse, 1902-05.
- FAIRCHILD, W. H.—Born November 14, 1886, Alvordton, Ohio. Died January 21, 1940. Burial at Snover. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Clay's congregation, West Unity charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1910. Ordained deacon, 1912; elder, 1917. Itinerancy, 1912. Pastorates: Greenwood, 1910-12; Erie, 1912-13; Whitehouse, 1913-15; Maple Grove, 1915-17; Epsilon, 1917-22; Scottville, 1922-24; Northfield, Ill. (student pastorate), 1924-26; Ryegate, Mont. (Nebraska Conference), 1926-27; Owendale, 1927-29; Brown City, 1929-31; Whittaker, 1931-34; Sharon, 1934-38; South Rockwood, 1938-40. Chairman of Committee on Quarterly Conference Records, 1934-39.
- FALL, FRED W.—Born October 12, 1893, Traverse City. Recommended by Traverse City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1922. Itinerancy, 1922. Pastorates: Coleman, 1918-20; Howell, 1920-22; Portage Prairie, 1922-26; Pigeon, 1926-31; Owosso, 1931-39; Petoskey, 1939-.
- FAUPEL, ABSALOM D., B.D.—Born November 1, 1881, at Mildmay, Ont. Recommended by Leighton church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903.

Ordained deacon, 1905; elder, 1907. Itinerancy, 1905. Pastorates: Ewart, 1903-05; Chesaning, 1905-07; Kilmanagh, 1907-11; Bay City, 1911-13. Credentials to M. E. Church, 1913.

FAUST, EDGAR S., B.S., B.D., D.D.—Born November 21, 1889, at Caro, Michigan. Recommended by Caro congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1912. Ordained deacon, 1914; elder, 1916. Itinerancy, 1914. Member of Board of Examiners since 1917. President of Board of Examiners since 1926. Secretary of Annual Conference, 1926-34. Member of Conference Trustee Board, 1934-. Vice-president of Board 1935 and 1938. President Conference Board Christian Education, 1926-31. Chairman Conference Commission on Evangelism, 1935-. Trustee of North Central College and Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1922-. Delegate to General Conference, 1926, 1930, 1934, 1938. District superintendent, 1934-. Member Board of Control Christian Education, 1919-27. Author pamphlet: "The Intermediate League," wrote devotional League Topics, *Evangelical Herald*, 1919-26. President Detroit Pastor's Union, 1929-30. Pastorates: Royalton, 1912-13; Detroit (Grand River), 1914-19; Waterman, 1919-26; Grand River, 1926-30; Calvary, 1930-34.

FAUST, MILFORD E.—Born August 23, 1883, at Zurich, Ontario. Died December 17, 1914. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1906. Took credentials to Illinois Conference, 1912. Did not serve in Michigan Conference.

FEATHER, DANIEL J.—Born February 15, 1857, Berrien County, Michigan. Died January 1, 1935. Burial at Kingston, Mich. Received from Free Methodist Church by credentials, 1897. Itinerancy, 1898. Pastorates: Marcellus, 1897-99; Nashville, 1899-1902; Wauseon, 1902-03; Fowlerville, 1903-04; Maple Grove, 1904-05; Mt. Pleasant, 1905-09; Eureka, 1909-10; Scottville, 1910-12; Chesaning, 1912-13; Cass City, 1913-16; Kilmanagh, 1916-19; Ida, 1919-21; Whiteford, 1921-24; Lenox, 1924-27.

* FEATHER, F. J.—Received by credentials from Free Methodist Church, 1897. Itinerancy, 1898. Ordained elder, 1899. Took credentials, 1906. Pastorates: Byron, 1897-98; Eureka, 1898-1900; Riverton, 1900-02; South Rockwood, 1902-06.

* FELIX, L. B.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1886. Pastorate: Gladwin, 1886-87.

FINCH, CLIFFORD D.—Born February 21, 1888, at Milan, Michigan. Recommended by Seybert congregation, Whittaker charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1908. Withdrawn, 1914. Pastorates: Lenox, 1908-09; Vicksburg, 1909-10; Monroe supply, 1910 (six months); Manchester, 1911-13.

* FISHER, ARTHUR P.—Received by credentials, 1927. Ordained deacon, 1927. Itinerancy, 1927. Took credentials, 1935. Pastorates: Detroit (Harper Avenue), 1927-31; Petoskey, 1931-33; Riverton, 1933-35.

FISHER, ALBERT R.—Born April 20, 1865, Germany. Died May 19, 1938. Burial at Capac, Michigan. Received by credentials from Minnesota Conference, 1903. Itinerancy, 1905. Pastorates: Owosso, 1905-06; Hersey, 1911-15; Inlay City, 1915-17; Capac, 1917-21; Erie, 1921-23.

* FLEISHER, GEORGE—Born September 17, 1819, Millersburg, Pa. Died October 3, 1896. Burial at Storm Lake, Iowa. Local elder in 1891. Never under appointment in Michigan.

* FOSTER, CHARLES—Licensed, 1914, by Michigan Conference. Withdrawn, 1916. Served as missionary to Africa for about twenty-five years under an inter-denominational board.

* FOWLER, WALTER H.—Recommended by Buchanan congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1919. Ordained deacon, 1922. Itinerancy, 1922. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1920-22; Whittaker, 1922-26; Hersey, 1926-28. Credentials, 1941.

FRANCISCO, OLIVER, B.S.—Born December 14, 1915, Caledonia, Michigan. Recommended by Leighton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1935. Student since receiving license.

FRANKHAUSER, JACOB—Born New York. Died February 5, 1889. Burial at Litchfield. Received from Ohio Conference by credentials, 1876. Itinerancy, 1876. Pastorates: Monroe Circuit, 1876-77; Detroit Mission, 1878-79. Presiding elder of Three Rivers District, 1879-80 (resigned because of ill health); Marshall, 1881-82.

* FREY, D. C.—Itinerancy, 1877. Ordained deacon, 1878. Pastorates: Ridgeway, 1876-77; Howell Mission, 1877-78.

FRYE, ABRAHAM—Born February 17, 1849, New Berlin, Pa. Died August 28, 1934. Buried at Dearborn. Recommended by Litchfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1875. Ordained deacon, 1878; elder, 1880. Itinerancy, 1876. Pastorates: Bainbridge, 1875-76; Owosso, 1876-77; Sanilac, 1877-78; Greenbush, 1878-79; Lexington, 1879-80; Whitehouse, 1880-82; West Unity, 1882-83; Leelenau, 1883-84; Traverse City, 1884-85; Maple Hill, 1885-87; Marcellus, 1887-89; Lima, 1889-92; Marshall, 1892-95; Maple Grove, 1895-96; Blissfield, 1897-1900; Wauseon, 1900-02; Manchester, 1902-03; Lenox, 1919-20.

FRYE, EDWIN G., D.D., Litt.D.—Born March 6, 1876, at West Unity, Ohio. Recommended by Buchanan congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1895. Ordained deacon, 1898; elder, 1900. Itinerancy, 1898. Pastorates: Flint Circuit, assistant, 1897-98; Nashville, 1898-99; Grand Rapids (First), 1899-1900; Ionia, 1900-04; St. Joseph, 1904-08; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1908-11; Monroe, 1911-15. Presiding elder, 1915-16. Assistant editor *Evangelical-Messenger*, 1915-19. Editor of *Evangelical-Messenger*, 1919-. Delegate to General Conference 1915, 1926, 1930, 1934. Ex officio member of General Conference, 1919, 1922, 1938. Alternate, 1938. Member of Commission on Federation and Union at Merger of Evangelical Churches. Member of Federal Council of Churches, 1919-38. Member of Board of Missions, 1919-22 and 1929-. Honorary vice-president of Anti-Saloon League. Author of "Breakfast with the Risen Lord" and "What Remains."

FRYE, GEORGE I.—Born September 22, 1878, at Litchfield, Michigan. Recommended by Flint (First) congregation. Licensed, 1919, by Michigan Conference. Never under appointment.

FRYE, HARVEY A.—Recommended by Oregon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1905. Ordained deacon, 1908. Itinerancy, 1908. Pastorates: Carleton, 1905-06; Whittaker, 1906-08; Fowlerville, 1908-12; Wauseon, 1912-14; Buchanan, 1914-16; Blissfield, 1917-22; Portage Prairie, 1932-34; Hersey, 1934-38; Pontiac (Calvary), 1938-. Evangelist, 1916-17, 1922-32.

FRYE, JACOB A.—Born July 18, 1851, in Union County, Pa. Died December 30, 1934. Burial at Detroit. Recommended by Litchfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1874. Ordained deacon, 1877; elder, 1879. Itinerancy, 1875. Pastorates: Riverton, 1874-75; West Unity, 1875-78; Marcellus, 1878-79; Monroe Circuit, 1879-81; Park, 1881-84; Jackson, 1884-86; Portage Prairie and Buchanan, 1888-89; Buchanan, 1889-90. Presiding elder: St. Joseph District, 1890-94; Flint, 1894-97; Reed City District, 1897-98; Grand Rapids District, 1898-1902; Detroit District, 1902-05; St. Joseph District, 1905-09; Grand Rapids District, 1909-10. Collector for Conference Church Extension Society, 1910-11. Pastor: Dearborn, 1912-13. Delegate to General Conference, 1891, 1895, 1899, 1903, 1907. Served also as assistant secretary of conference, conference examiner, president of Conference Missionary Society and trustee of Ebenezer Old Peoples' Home.

FRYE, NOAH—Born October 10, 1853, in Union County, Pa. Died July 31, 1939. Buried at Detroit, Michigan. Recommended by Litchfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1887; elder, 1889. Itinerancy, 1886. Pastorates: Blissfield, 1885-86; Scottville, 1886-88; Holt, 1888-89; St. Joseph, 1889-91; Ionia, 1891-92; Fremont, 1892-95; Marcellus, 1895-97; Park, 1897-1900; Oregon, 1900-04; Pigeon, 1904-07.

*FRACKER, STANLEY—Licensed, 1923, by Michigan Conference. Ordained deacon, 1925. Pastorates: Jackson (Francis St.), 1923-24; Leelenau, 1924-25. Withdrawn, 1930.

*FREDERICKSON, WM. R.—Licensed, 1920. Never under appointment. Withdrawn, 1939.

*FROMM, MICHAEL—Probationer, 1865. Never under appointment.

FUCHS (FOX), JOHN M.—Born August 31, 1835, Midereich, Germany. Died March 9, 1915. Buried at Sharon, Michigan. Charter member of Michigan Conference. Ordained deacon, 1866; elder, 1868. Itinerancy, 1864. Pastorates: Ionia Mission, 1865-66; Genesee, 1866-68, Capac, 1868-70; Detroit, 1870-72; Owosso, 1872-74; Saginaw Mission, 1874-77; Dearborn, 1877-78. Presiding elder Ionia District, 1878-82. Pastor: Owosso, 1882-85; Byron, 1885-87; Sebawaing, 1889-91; Bay City, 1893-94; Woodland, 1894-98; Imlay City, 1898-02. Delegate to General Conference, 1879-1883. Vice-president of Conference Missionary Society and treasurer of Church Extension Society for several years. As Conference Historian prepared historical sketch of Michigan Conference.

FUERSTENAU, HERMAN C.—Born November 30, 1865, at Lenox, Michigan. Died January 11, 1913. Burial at Marcellus. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1892. Ordained deacon, 1894; elder, 1896. Itinerancy, 1894. Pastorates: St. Joseph, 1892-93; Marcellus, 1893-94; Howell, 1894-95; Traverse City, 1895-97; Flint, 1897-98; Sebawaing, 1898-1900; Royalton, 1900-01; Lima, 1901-05. Member of Oregon Conference, 1908-11.

GACKELER, CARL F., B.A.—Born August 15, 1877, Allegan County, Michigan. Died April 28, 1918. Burial at Middleville, Michigan. Recommended by Leighton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1912. Ordained deacon, 1914; elder, 1916. Itinerancy, 1914. Pastorates: Saginaw, 1912-16; Hamilton Boulevard, Detroit, 1916-18. Treasurer of Conference Missionary Society, 1916-18. Delegate to Board of Missions. Missionary secretary Conference Branch Y. P. A.

- *GALLOWAY, B. F.—Received by credentials from Wesleyan Methodist Church, 1903. Withdrawn, 1905. Pastorates: Scottville, 1903-04; Fowler-ville, 1904-05.
- *GAMERTSFELDER, W. D.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1886. Ordained deacon, 1889. Itinerancy, 1889. Pastorates: Leelenau, 1888-90; Colon, 1890-91; Whittaker and Carleton, 1891-92; Whittaker, 1892-93; Hortons Bay, 1907-08; Pomona, 1909-10; Whiteford, 1910-11; Maple Grove, 1911-12.
- GEE, IRA G.—Born April 26, 1883, Oasis, Wis. Recommended by Harper Avenue congregation, Detroit. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1927. Itinerancy, 1925. Withdrawn, 1928. Pastorate: Fowlerville, 1923-27.
- *GEE, GARTH—Recommended by Harper Avenue congregation, Detroit. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Credentials to Minnesota Conference, 1927.
- *GEIST, AUGUST—Received by credentials from Indiana Conference, 1927. Returned to Indiana with credentials, 1932.
- GERINGER, HENRY B.—Born 1858 in Fulton County, Ohio. Recommended by Salem class, Wauseon charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1887. Local probationer fifty-two years. Withdrawn, 1939.
- GIBSON, CLYDE C.—Born October 20, 1885, at Reading, Michigan. Recommended by Petoskey congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1907. Ordained deacon, 1909; elder, 1911. Itinerancy, 1909. Pastorates: Traverse City, 1907-09; Nashville, 1909-12; Detroit (Waterman), 1912-19; Flint (First), 1919-22; Detroit (Mack), 1922-26. District superintendent Detroit District, 1926-34. Pastor: Monroe, 1934-35; Chelsea Avenue, Detroit, 1940-. Conference Financial Secretary, 1935-. Delegate to General Conference, 1926, 1930, 1934, 1938. Chairman of delegation, 1926. Member of Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of Evangelical Deaconess Society and Haven Hubbard Home. Conference secretary, 1920-25; secretary of Conference Trustee Board, Conference Church Extension Society, president of Conference Sunday School Board and Conference Deaconess Society. Treasurer of Conference Branch Y. P. A., president Genesee County Sunday School Association, secretary of Board of Trustees Michigan Sunday School Council, secretary of Committee of Fourteen for Merger of Michigan Council of Churches and Michigan Council of Religious Education. Chairman Department Evangelism Detroit Council of Churches and chairman Departments of Finance and Evangelism of Michigan Council of Churches and Christian Education.
- *GIESE, CHAS. F.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1906. Ordained deacon, 1908; elder, 1910. Itinerancy, 1908. Pastorates: Evart, 1906-07; Leelenau, 1907-10; Sebawaing, 1910-15; Ionia, 1915-16; Detroit (First), 1916-17; Detroit (Kercheval), 1917; health broke in 1917. Credentials to California, 1927.
- *GILLHAUSEN, J.—Local probationer, 1865. No further information.
- GINGRICH, JOSEPH Y.—Born February 11, 1841, in Canada. Died October 10, 1895. Burial Reed City. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1874. Ordained deacon, 1885. Itinerancy, 1878. Pastorates: Osceola, 1874-75; Traverse Bay, 1877-78; Maple Hill, 1878-79.

- * GLASS, CHAS. A.—Received by credentials from Free Methodist Church, 1910. Itinerancy, 1919. Pastorates: Boyne City, 1911-13; Grand Rapids (First), 1918-20. Evangelist from 1910 to 1942 except for two pastorates.
- GOTTESLEBEN, WILLIAM E.—Born October 24, 1883, St. Clair County, Michigan. Recommended by East Greenwood class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1915. Ordained deacon, 1918. Itinerancy, 1918. Pastorates: Gladwin, 1915-16; Ogden, 1916-18; Fowlerville, 1918-20; Eureka, 1920-22; Hortons Bay, 1922-23; Maple Grove, 1923-25; Turk Lake, 1925-37.
- * GRAMLEY, A. J.—Received by credentials, 1882. Took credentials, 1888. Pastorates: Jackson, 1882-83; Monroe, 1883-86; Riverton, 1886-1888.
- * GRAVES, W. M.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1894. Withdrawn, 1900. Pastorate: North Bradley, 1894-95.
- GREENMAN, CLAUDE B.—Born January 25, 1888, Antrim County, Michigan. Recommended by Boyne City class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1920. Deposed, 1926. Pastorates: Boyne City, 1918-20; Leelenau, 1920-22; Eureka, 1922-23; Carleton, 1923-26.
- GUMSER, WILLIAM—Received by credentials from M. E. Church, 1918. Itinerancy, 1918. Pastorates: Scottville, 1918-20; Nashville, 1920-22; Ida, 1922-24; Pontiac (Calvary), 1924-25; Howell, 1925-27; Lima, 1927-29; Evart, 1929-33; Woodland, 1933-34; West Unity, 1934-36; Eureka, 1936-40.
- GUNYAN, HARRY A.—Born March 3, 1885, Montpelier, Ohio. Received from Salvation Army, 1919, as local deacon. Itinerancy, 1923; elder, 1925. Pastorates: Riverton, 1921-22; Turk Lake, 1922-25; Waldron, 1925-26; Erie, 1926-32; Maple Hill, 1932-35; Chesaning, 1935-.
- * GURNEY, C. J.—Received by credentials from M. E. Church, 1902. Ordained deacon, 1904; elder, 1911. Itinerancy, 1908. Died 1920. Pastorates: Carleton, 1903-05; Whitehouse, 1905-07; Delta, 1907-08; Wauseon, 1908-11; West Unity, 1911-12; Maple Grove, 1912-15; Coleman, 1915-16.
- HADDIX, AARON M.—Born March 6, 1847, Richland County, Ohio. Died March 30, 1933. Buried at West Unity, Ohio. Received by credentials from U. B. Church, 1888. Ordained deacon, 1890; elder, 1894. Itinerancy, 1890. Pastorates: Litchfield, 1888-89; Fulton, 1889-91; Verona, 1892-94; Scottville, 1894-95; Freemont, 1895-97; South Rockwood, 1897-99; Whiteford, 1899-1901; Verona, 1901-05; Eureka, 1905-07; Whitehouse, 1909-11.
- * HAGERMAN, A. G.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1916. Withdrawn, 1917. Pastorate: Carleton, 1916. Served only a short time.
- * HAINES, ERNEST—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Withdrawn, 1934. Pastorates: Owosso, 1923-24; Greenwood, 1924-25.
- * HALL, GEORGE E.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1913. Ordained deacon, 1915; elder, 1920. Itinerancy, 1915. Pastorates: South Rockwood, 1913-15; Ida, 1915-16; Bainbridge, 1916-18; Bangor, 1918-20; Park, 1920-22; Riverton, 1922-23; Eureka, 1923-25.
- HALLER, J. GEORGE, SR.—Born December 10, 1840, in Germany. Died January 2, 1912. Buried Lockport, N. Y. Recommended by Bennington class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1868. Ordained deacon, 1874; elder, 1876. Itinerancy, 1874. Withdrawn, 1877. Pastorates: Owosso, 1873-74; Caledonia, 1874-75; Ionia, 1875-77.

HALLER, JOHN GEORGE, JR., Ph.D.—Born in New York State, 1858. Died August 12, 1931. Buried at Port Huron, Michigan. Received by credentials from Minnesota Conference, 1882. Took credentials, 1894. Pastorates: Bay City, 1882-85; Howell, 1885-87; Ionia, 1887-90; Caledonia, 1890-91; Bay City, 1891-93.

* HALMHUBER, ADOLPH—Born 1850, Germany. Received by credentials from Germany Conference, 1886. Itinerancy, 1886. Died April, 1919. Pastorates: Bay City, 1885-87; Howell, 1887-89; Detroit, 1889-92; Capac, 1892-95; Reed City, 1895-99; Bay City, 1899-1902; Detroit, 1902-06; Capac, 1906-08; Lenox, 1912-13; Kilmanagh, 1913-16; Detroit City Missionary, 1916-17. Served as missionary to Japan for several years. Superintendent of Ebenezer Old Peoples' Home, 1908-12. Delegate to General Conference, 1899, 1903, 1907. Conference Statistical Secretary, 1892 to 1907. Member of Conference Board of Examiners for several years.

* HALMHUBER, J. ADOLPH, B.A., D.D.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1900. Ordained deacon, 1902; elder, 1904. Itinerancy, 1902. Pastorates: Chesaning, 1900-03; Buchanan, 1903-07; Detroit (Waterman Ave.), 1907-12; Detroit (Mack Ave.), 1912-19. Withdrawn, 1920. Delegate to General Conference, 1915. Member of Conference Board of Examiners. Secretary of Conference Missionary Society, Secretary of Conference, 1915-19. Conference Sunday School Secretary, 1910, president of Conference Deaconess Society, 1916-20.

* HALMHUBER, WM. H.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903. Ordained deacon, 1905; elder, 1911. Took credentials, 1912. Pastorates: Chesaning, 1903-05; Detroit (Waterman Ave.), 1905-06.

HARPER, W. W.—Born August 6, 1888, West Virginia. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1932. Withdrawn, 1935. Pastorate: Ellis Corners, 1932-33.

HARRINGTON, CLARENCE S.—Born May 15, 1891, at South Haven, Michigan. Recommended by St. Joseph congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1928. Ordained deacon, 1933; elder, 1938. Itinerancy, 1933. Pastorates: Wauseon, 1928-36; Ida, 1936-41; Jackson (Francis St.), 1941-.

HARRINGTON, WILLIAM A., B.A.—Born May 24, 1914, St. Joseph, Michigan. Recommended by Wauseon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1934. Took credentials, 1939, to Indiana Conference. Supplied on Erie charge, November, 1934, to April, 1935.

* HARTMAN, M.—Local probationer in 1868. No further information.

HAUG, JOHN M.—Born November 15, 1836, Germany. Died September 18, 1904. Burial at Indianapolis, Ind. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1858. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Pastorates: Ann Arbor, 1859-60; Dearborn, 1860-61; North Michigan, 1861-63; Detroit, 1863-66; Owosso, 1866-68; St. Joseph, 1868-70; Marshall, 1870-73; Flint, 1873-74. Presiding elder: Saginaw District, 1874-78; Flint District, 1878-82; Ionia District, 1882-86. Pastor: Detroit, 1886-89; Howell, 1889-91. Credentials to Indiana Conference, 1891. Delegate to General Conference, 1871-75, 1879, 1883, 1887. President of Church Extension Society. Served on important boards of the Church. Secretary of Conference, 1867, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73.

* HAUGHTBY, JOHN—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1872. Withdrew, 1873. Never under appointment.

- HAYES, LEWIS H.—Born July 12, 1893, at Owosso, Michigan. Died, 1923. Burial at Owosso. Recommended by Owosso congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1915. Ordained deacon, 1917. Itinerancy, 1918. Deposed, 1920. Pastorates: Detroit (Kercheval), 1915-17; Flint (Kearsley Park), 1917-19; Saginaw, 1919-20.
- HAYES, WILLIAM D.—Born October 30, 1886, at Dundock, Ont. Recommended by East Geneva class, Coleman. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1914. Ordained deacon, 1917; elder, 1920. Itinerancy, 1917. Pastorates: Wauseon, 1914-16; Scottville, 1916-18; Lima, 1918-22; Bainbridge, 1922-25; Snover, 1925-28; Evart, 1928-29; Buchanan, 1929-31; Nashville, 1931-32; Saginaw, 1932-36; Owendale, 1936-38; Mt. Pleasant, 1938-. Secretary of Conference Deaconess Society.
- HEARL, BERNARD—Born February 15, 1913, Ypsilanti, Michigan. Recommended by Fairgrove congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1940. Assistant pastor Mt. Pleasant Circuit, October, 1939, to May, 1940. Pastor Coleman, 1940-.
- HEININGER, DANIEL—Born May 18, 1835, in Switzerland. Died February 11, 1919. Burial at Toledo, Ohio. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1857. Appears in Michigan records as a local elder in 1866. Itinerancy, 1867. Took credentials in 1888. Pastorates: Ann Arbor, 1867-69; Dearborn Station, 1875-76; Howell, 1883-85; Saginaw, 1885-86.
- HEININGER, SAMUEL—Born December 5, 1842, in Switzerland. Died March 7, 1932. Burial at Elkhart, Ind. Recommended by Dexter class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1870. Ordained deacon, 1872; elder, 1874. Itinerancy, 1870. Pastorates: Sebewaing, 1870-72; Mason Mission, 1872-73; conference collector, 1873-74; Jackson, 1874-75; missionary to Oregon, 1875-79. Pastor: Jackson, 1879-81; Monroe, 1881-83; Jackson, 1883-84. Corresponding secretary of General Missionary Society, 1883-91. Due to election to this office took credentials, 1884. Delegate to General Conference, 1883. Member ex officio, 1887, 1891. Author of brief autobiography.
- HEISE, H. C.—Born February 17, 1889, at Arnprior, Ont. Received by credentials from Canada Conference, 1911. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1911-13; Caro, 1913-15; Royalton, 1915-16; Park, 1916-19; Whiteford, 1919-21; Elkton, 1921-26; Portage Prairie, 1926-28; Capac, 1928-32; Flint (Kearsley), 1932-36; Sebewaing, 1936-.
- * HEISS, JACOB—Appears as probationer in 1866. No further record. Never under appointment.
- * HAMP (OR HEMP), F. A.—Licensed, 1877. Itinerancy, 1878. Withdrawn, 1879. Pastorates: Cass City, 1877-78; Bay City, 1878-79.
- HENNE, STEPHEN—Born January 22, 1835, in Wurtemberg, Germany. Died December 18, 1902. Burial at Hersey, Michigan. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Pastorates: St. Clair Mission, 1865-66; Sebewaing, 1866-68; Ionia, 1868-70; Osceola, 1870-72; Bainbridge, 1873-74; Owosso, 1874-76; Blissfield, 1876-79; Capac, 1879-81; Flint, 1881-84; Marshall, 1884-86; Washtenaw, 1886-88; Hersey, 1888-91; Reed City, 1891-93; Woodland, 1893-94. Conference secretary, 1874 and 1876. Assistant secretary for seven years.
- * HESS, E. H.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1870. Ordained deacon, 1871; elder, 1873. Itinerancy, 1870. Took credentials, 1903. Pastorates:

Detroit Mission, 1870-71; Grand Traverse, 1871-72; Ridgeway, 1872-74; Lake Shore, 1874-75; Sebewaing, 1875-77; Caledonia, 1877-79; Lansing, 1879-80; Howell, 1880-81; Cass City, 1882-83; Mt. Pleasant, 1883-85; Im-lay City, 1885-88; Owosso, 1888-90; Maple Hill, 1893-95.

HETTLER, ANDREW J.—Born November 29, 1861, at Thompson, Ohio. Recommended by Erie class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903. Ordained deacon, 1906; elder, 1908. Itinerancy, 1906. Pastorates: Whittaker, 1904-06; Bristol, 1906-07; Coleman, 1907-09; Maple Grove, 1909-11; Oregon, 1911-13; Bainbridge, 1913-16; Gladwin, 1916-21; Ida, 1921-22; Woodland, 1922-29; Whiteford, 1929-31; Chesaning, 1931-33.

HETTLER, GEORGE A.—Born October 14, 1836, at Thompson, Ohio. Died February 2, 1921. Buried at Park, Michigan. Recommended by Erie class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1874. Ordained deacon, 1876; elder, 1878. Itinerancy, 1875. Pastorates: West Unity, 1874-75; Lima, 1875-76; Litchfield, 1876-78; Park, 1878-80; Marcellus, 1880-81; Jackson, 1881-82; Marshall, 1882-84; Portage Prairie, 1884-86. Presiding elder, St. Joseph District, 1886-90; Flint District, 1890-94; Detroit District, 1894-98; St. Joseph District, 1898-1902; Flint District, 1902-05; Grand Rapids District, 1905-09; St. Joseph District, 1909-10. Pastor: Vicksburg, 1910-11. Presiding elder: Detroit District, 1911-15. Pastor: Ogden, 1915-16. Delegate to General Conference, 1887, 1891, 1895, 1899, 1903, 1907, 1911, 1915. Chairman of delegation, 1887, 1891, 1895. President of Conference Missionary Society, 1886-95. Vice-president Church Extension Society, 1896-1920.

HEXIMER, GABRIEL G.—Born January, 1864, at Willoughby, Ont. Died April 20, 1928. Burial at Willoughby, Ont. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Ordained deacon, 1891; elder, 1894. Itinerancy, 1891. Pastor: St. Joseph, 1889-90; Marshall, 1890-92; Vicksburg, 1892-93; Byron, 1893-95; Moore, 1895-97; Whiteford, 1897-98; West Unity, 1898-1900; Whittaker, 1900-03; Bainbridge, 1903-05; Kilmanagh, 1905-07; Pigeon, 1907-08; Verona, 1908-12; Leelenau, 1912-15; Hortons Bay, 1915-17; Scottville, 1920-22; Alvordton, 1922-24.

HIBBARD, S. B.—Born February 22, 1838, at Morrow County, Ohio. Died May 4, 1908. Burial at Monroe, Michigan. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1878. Itinerancy, 1878. Pastorates: Carleton, 1878-81; Bangor, 1881-83; Rives, 1883-84; Whitehouse, 1884-86; Bristol, 1886-88; Scottville, 1890-91; West Unity, 1892-95.

HILL, JOHN W.—Born July 7, 1886, at Flat Rock, Michigan. Recommended by Carleton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1919. Ordained deacon, 1922; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1922. Pastorates: Detroit (Kercheval), 1919-26; Blissfield, 1926-33; Battle Creek, 1933-. President Conference Church Extension Society, 1937-. Secretary of Fire Insurance Society and Secretary of Stewardship and Tithing.

HITCHENS, JOHN P.—Born October 19, 1905, in England. Recommended by Twelfth Street congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1934.

HOLSAPLE, JOHN E.—Born December 23, 1849, at Tiro, Ohio. Died, 1909. Buried at Nashville, Michigan. Recommended by Paradise class, Bristol. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Ordained deacon, 1891; elder, 1893. Itinerancy, 1892. Pastorates: Whittaker, 1889-90; Lansing, 1892-93; Rives, 1893-94; Mt. Pleasant, 1894-96; Maple Grove, 1896-98; Byron, 1898-99; Fowlerville, 1899-1900; Marshall, 1901-03; Royalton, 1903-05; Erie, 1905-07; Whitehouse, 1907-08.

HOLSAPLE, ROLAND N., L.L.D.—Born April 11, 1876, at Monroeville, Ind. Died October 31, 1940. Burial at Cass City. Recommended by North Maple Grove class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1897. Withdrawn, 1899. Relicensed, 1902. Ordained deacon, 1905; elder, 1917. Itinerancy, 1905. Pastorates: Marshall-Litchfield, 1897-98; Petoskey, 1898-99; Ogden, 1902-03; Delta, 1903-04; Traverse City, 1904-07; Anti-Saloon League work, 1907-37. Pastor: Cass City, 1937-40. Author: "It's Up to the Church," "Strategy of Alcohol."

HOLTZ, GEORGE A.—Born February 11, 1900, at South Bend, Ind. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Niles congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1934. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Millburg (supply), 1924-25; West Unity, 1925-26; Cloverdale, 1930-34; Eureka, 1934-36. Withdrawn, 1937.

* HOLTZMAN, J. H.—Licensed, 1884. Withdrawn, 1891. Never under appointment.

HOOD, FRANK A.—Born February 7, 1891, at Capac, Michigan. Died December 23, 1937. Recommended by Capac congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1911. Ordained deacon, 1916; elder, 1921. Itinerancy, 1916. Pastorates: Fowlerville, 1913-15; Whittaker, 1915-18; Chesaning, 1918-20; Lenox, 1920-24; Whiteford, 1924-26; Greenwood, 1926-29; Gladwin, 1929-32; Royalton, 1932-35; Park, 1935-December, 1937.

HOMMEL, JACOB—Born October 30, 1857, at Wurtemberg, Germany. Died August 18, 1934. Burial at Saginaw. Recommended by First church, Detroit. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Ordained deacon, 1891; elder, 1893. Itinerancy, 1891. Pastorates: Kochville, 1889-92; Forestville, 1892-94; Hersey, 1894-96; Bay City, 1896-98; Saginaw, 1898-1902; Imlay City, 1902-06; Moore, 1907-10; Maple Hill, 1910-12; Evart, 1912-14. (Served two years at LaCrosse, Wis., 1915-17.)

HORN, FRED H.—Born May 5, 1880, at Elba, N. Y. Recommended by Cloverdale congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903. Ordained deacon, 1906; elder, 1914. Itinerancy, 1906. Pastorates: Pomona, 1903-07; Evart, 1907-08; Chesaning, 1908-09; Lenox, 1909-12; West Unity, 1912-16; Washtenaw, 1916 to September, 1918; Maple Grove, 1920-23 (20 to 22 as assistant).

HOWE, CHARLES H.—Born July 29, 1860, at Bronson, Michigan. Recommended by Petoskey congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1902. Ordained deacon, 1904; elder, 1907. Itinerancy, 1904. Pastorates: Horton Bay, 1902-06; Scottville, 1906-10; Niles, 1910-12; Benton Harbor, 1912-16; Caro, 1916-18; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1918-20; Grand Rapids (First), 1920-23; Marcellus, 1923-25.

HOWE, PHILIP—Born June 28, 1861, in New York. Recommended by Horton Bay congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1909. Ordained deacon, 1914. Took credentials, 1927. Pastorates: Greenwood, 1909-10; Pomona, 1913-15.

* HUBBLE, E. B.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Withdrawn, 1893. Pastor: Scottville, 1889-90.

* HUELSTER, H.—Received by credentials, 1892. Withdrawn, 1894. Pastor: Grand Rapids (First), 1892-93.

- * HUGHES, E. W.—Received by credentials, 1913. Name removed, 1914. Never under appointment.
- * HUSTON, BURR R.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1897. Withdrawn, 1898. Never under appointment.
- * HUTTON, WELLS—Received by credentials from Methodist Protestant Church, 1919. Took credentials, 1920. Pastorate: Park, 1919-20.
- * IRISH, A. D.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1914. Withdrawn, 1917. Pastorate: Brown City, 1914-15.
- JEWELL, MARVIN R.—Born April 21, 1904, at Carleton, Michigan. Recommended by Erie congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1931. Ordained deacon, 1935; elder, 1941. Itinerancy, 1935. Pastorates: Horton Bay, 1931-36; Ann Arbor, 1936-41; Gladwin, 1941-.
- JOHNSON, EDWARD G.—Born January 28, 1881, Orland, Ind. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Fremont class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1902. Ordained deacon, 1904; elder, 1906. Itinerancy, 1904. Pastorates: Avery, 1902-03; Vicksburg, 1903-05; Detroit (Mack), 1906-09. Credentials to Texas, 1909. Later to Indiana Conference, 1916. District Superintendent in Indiana Conference.
- JOHNSON, FLOYD C.—Licensed, 1922. Withdrawn, 1927. Never under appointment.
- * JOHNSON, GEORGE—Born December 7, 1861, in New York City, New York. Died February 1, 1920. Burial at Cleveland, Ohio. Recommended by Leighton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1888. Itinerancy, 1885. Pastorates: Byron Mission, 1884-85; Petoskey, 1885-88; Woodland, 1888-90; Nashville, 1890-91; Jackson, 1891-93; Buchanan, 1893-95; St. Joseph, 1895-96; Conference Secretary, 1894-95. Delegate to General Conference, 1903, 1907, 1911, 1915. Treasurer of North Central College, 1895-1907. Executive Secretary-Treasurer of General Missionary Society, 1907-20. Treasurer of Superannuation Fund, 1911-20. Credentials to Ohio, 1908, due to election as Missionary Society.
- KAATZ, CHRISTIAN G.—Born May 29, 1862, in Oxford County, Ont. Died March 14, 1936. Burial at Waterloo, Ont. Received by credentials from Canada, 1917. Itinerancy, 1917. Pastorates: Sebewaing, 1917-21; Pontiac (Calvary), 1921-24; Flint (Kearsley), 1924-28; Elkton, 1928-30; Vicksburg, 1930-32; Wyandotte, 1932-25. President of Church Extension Society, 1921-31.
- KAECHLE, ANDREW—Born February 1, 1864, Wurtemberg, Germany. Died April 4, 1911. Buried at Cleveland, Ohio. Recommended by Leighton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1888. Ordained deacon, 1892; elder, 1894. Itinerancy, 1892. Took credentials, 1897. Pastorates: North Bradley, 1890-91; Pinora, 1891-92; Detroit (First), 1892-95; West Detroit, 1895-97.
- * KAECHLE, WALTER I.—Recommended by Leighton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Pastorate: Vicksburg, 1924-30. Withdrawn, 1940.
- * KEISER (OR KAISER), JOSEPH—Born July 8, 1816, Stark County, Ohio. Died September 14, 1887. Buried at Eureka, Michigan. Appeared as local probationer in 1877. Never under appointment.

- KEELER, J. H., M.D.—Born March 22, 1835, in Pennsylvania. Died March 2, 1919. Buried at Ferry, Miss. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1870. Ordained deacon, 1871; elder, 1873. Itinerancy, 1870. Pastor: Monroe Circuit, 1870-72; Fulton, 1872-74; St. Joseph Circuit, 1874-75; Jackson, 1875-76; Park, 1876-78; Marshall, 1878-80; Portage Prairie, 1880-82. Presiding elder, Monroe District, 1882-86. Pastor: Monroe, 1886-87; Royalton, 1898-99; Lima, 1899-1901; Whitehouse, 1901-02. Author of numerous poems. Member of Kansas Conference, 1887-98.
- KELLER, BENJAMIN—Born June 6, 1818, in Berks County, Pa. Died March 23, 1886. Buried near Wauseon, Ohio. Charter member of Michigan Conference. Appears as an elder in 1866. Missionary who established Evangelical Church in Detroit. Not under appointment in Michigan after conference was organized in 1864.
- KELLERMANN, GARFIELD H., B.S., B.D.—Born January 8, 1890, Shipka, Ont. Recommended by Elkton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1913. Ordained deacon, 1915; elder, 1917. Itinerancy, 1915. Pastorates: Sterling, Ill. (student pastorate), 1914-15; Caro, 1915-16; Saginaw, 1916-19; Detroit (Grand River), 1919-20; Monroe (First church), 1920-27; Dearborn, 1927-33; Financial Secretary, 1933-35; Monroe, 1935-37. Health broke down, 1937. Delegate to General Conference, 1926, 1930, 1934. Secretary Fire Insurance Society, 1918-26. Treasurer Student Aid Society, 1918-31. Secretary Church Extension Society, 1922-35. Conference Trustee, 1926-. Conference Board of Church Extension, 1927-38.
- * KEMMERLING, L.—Licensed, 1871, by Michigan Conference. Ordained deacon, 1873; elder, 1875. Itinerancy, 1872. Withdrawn, 1889. Pastorates: Lake Shore, 1871-72; Portage Prairie, 1872-73; Mason, 1873-75; Marshall, 1875-78; Litchfield, 1878-79; Lima, 1879-81.
- KENNEY, ESTES L.—Born September 9, 1912, Traverse City, Michigan. Received by credentials from Oregon-Washington Conference, 1938.
- KESSELRING, MAX.—Born September 10, 1875. Recommended by Bay City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1902. Ordained deacon, 1905. Credentials to Illinois Conference, 1905.
- KIRN, FREDERICK W., A.B.—Born January 4, 1891, at Henderson, Michigan. Licensed by Illinois Conference, 1914. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1915. Ordained deacon, 1916; elder, 1918. Itinerancy, 1916. Pastorates: Flint (Kearsley), 1914-17; St. Joseph, 1917-20; Kalamazoo, 1920-25; Detroit (Calvary), 1925-28; Bay City, 1928-31; Ann Arbor, 1931-32; Detroit (Waterman), 1932-40; Flint (First), 1940-. Secretary Michigan Conference, 1934-. Assistant secretary, 1920-34. President Conference Missionary Society, 1921-29. Treasurer District Superintendent Salary Fund, 1928-33. Prepared lesson helps for *Evangelical Bible School Teacher* since 1931. Delegate to General Conference, 1934-38. Member of Board of Examiners since 1919. President of State E. L. C. E., 1926-27.
- KIRN, GEORGE J., B.S., M.S., M.A., Ph.D., D.D.—Born July 15, 1863, at New Haven, Michigan. Recommended by New Haven class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1886. Ordained deacon, 1888; elder, 1890. Itinerancy, 1888. Pastorates: Sebewaing (assistant), 1886-87; Olivers (Verona), 1887-89; Eureka, 1889-90; Cass City, 1890-93; Jackson, 1893-96; Sebewaing, 1896-98. Presiding elder: Flint District, 1898-1902; St. Joseph District, 1902-04. Professor North Central College, 1904-39. Delegate to General Conference,

1899, 1903, 1907. Chairman of delegation, 1898 and 1903. (Did not attend 1903.) Author: "Religion a Rational Demand" and "Ideal Aspects of Psychology." Secretary of Conference, 1896-97.

KIRN, JOHN—Born March 14, 1858, at New Haven, Michigan. Died June 15, 1933. Buried at West Haven. Received by credentials from Primitive Holiness Church, 1905. Ordained elder, 1907. Itinerancy, 1906. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1905-07; Marshall, 1907-08; Park, 1908-12; Washtenaw, 1912-16; Ida, 1916-19; Snover, 1919-23; Brown City, 1923-25; Ogden, 1925-27; Maple Hill, 1927-29.

KIRN, JACOB F.—Born April 19, 1853, in Germany. Died October 26, 1934. Buried New Haven, Michigan. Recommended by New Haven congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1894. Ordained deacon, 1896; elder, 1898. Itinerancy, 1896. Pastorates: Byron, 1896-97; Oregon, 1897-99; Mt. Pleasant, 1899-1902; Woodland, 1902-05; Caledonia, 1905-08; Hersey, 1908-11; Kilmanagh, 1911-14; Moore, 1914-19; Imlay City, 1919-21; Coleman, 1921-23.

KIRN, STANLEY P., B.A., B.D.—Born May 11, 1898, at Henderson, Michigan. Recommended by Flint (Kearsley). Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Ordained deacon, 1924; elder, 1927. Itinerancy, 1924. Pastorates: Missionary to China, 1922-26; Fremont, 1927-29; Bainbridge, 1929-33; South Rockwood, 1933-38; Owendale, 1938-41; Cass City, 1941-. Assistant Secretary of Conference, 1929-.

* KITCHEN, W. V.—Licensed by Michigan, 1873. No further information available.

* KLEIN, J. N.—Licensed, 1874, by Michigan Conference. No further information available.

KLOPFENSTEIN, GEORGE E.—Born September 25, 1890, at Elkhart, Ind. Died August 14, 1939. Buried at Elkhart, Ind. Recommended by Niles congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Ordained deacon, 1922; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1922. Pastorates: West Unity, 1920-21; Marshall, 1921-24; Ida, 1924-27; Ogden, 1927-29; Lima, 1929-34; Woodland, 1934 to August, 1939.

KLUMP, FREDERICK J.—Born September 7, 1855, at Wurtemberg, Germany. Died February 25, 1926. Buried at Cass City, Michigan. Recommended by Bennington congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1876. Ordained deacon, 1878; elder, 1880. Itinerancy, 1877. Pastorates: Saginaw, 1876-77; Oregon, 1877-78; Cass City, 1878-80; Detroit Mission, 1880-83; Ionia, 1883-84; Flint, 1884-87; Bay City, 1887-88; Buchanan, 1890-93. Presiding elder: Reed City District, 1893-97; Flint District, 1897-98. Pastor: Cass City, 1898-1901; Pigeon, 1902-04. Presiding elder: St. Joseph District, 1904-05; Detroit District, 1905-08; Flint District, 1908-12. Secretary of Conference, 1884-88. Delegate to General Conference, 1895, 1899, 1907, 1911. Secretary of State Board of Mediation and Arbitration. Founder and for several years, publisher of *Cass City Chronicle*. Associated with Rev. W. F. Vogel in founding *Evangelical Tidings*.

KLUMP, NORMAN W., A.B.—Born August 24, 1910, at Blissfield, Michigan. Recommended by Ogden church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1931. Ordained deacon, 1934; elder, 1936. Itinerancy, 1934. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1932-40; Buchanan, 1940-.

*KNECHTEL, GIDEON—Born February 25, 1878. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1904. Ordained deacon, 1906; elder, 1908. Itinerancy, 1906. Pastorates: Bainbridge, 1904-08; Ida, 1908-11; Reed City, 1911-16; Bay City, 1916-20. Presiding elder: Flint District, 1920-26; Bay City District, 1926-28. Pastor: Pontiac (Baldwin), 1928-32. Superintendent Haven Hubbard Home, 1932-39. Pastor: Wyandotte, 1940-. Delegate to General Conference, 1919, 1922, 1926, 1930.

KNECHTEL, OTTO G., A.B., B.D.—Born January 8, 1900, Hanover, Ont. Recommended by Bay City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Ordained deacon, 1930; elder, 1932. Itinerancy, 1930. Pastorates: Park (supply), 1923-24; Ferndale, 1930-. Assistant Secretary of Conference.

*KNOPF, FRED—Received by credentials from Methodist Episcopal Church, 1878. Died, 1923. Never under appointment.

KOCH, CARL G.—Born February 1, 1817, in Germany. Died August 1, 1897. Buried at Cleveland. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1879. Pastorates: Detroit Mission, 1879-80; Dearborn, 1880-82. Took credentials, 1892. Conference Secretary, 1881, 1882, 1883. Editor of *Christliche Botschafter*, 1853-63. Author of numerous hymns and poems in German.

KOEHLER, WILLIAM A.—Born February 14, 1854, at Lexington, Michigan. Died May 4, 1924. Buried at Detroit. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1880. Ordained deacon, 1882; elder, 1884. Itinerancy, 1881. Pastorates: Ida, 1880-81; Carleton, 1881-82; Erie, 1882-83; Petoskey, 1883-85; Woodland, 1885-88; Flint, 1888-91; Portage Prairie, 1891-93; Eureka, 1893-94. Presiding elder: St. Joseph District, 1894-98; Detroit District, 1898-1901. Pastor: Flint, 1901-03; West Detroit (Waterman), 1904-05; Capac, 1907-08. Presiding elder: Detroit District, 1908-11. Delegate to General Conference, 1891, 1895, 1899, 1903, 1907. Secretary of the Conference, 1891, 1892, 1893. Secretary of the Church Extension Society and vice-president of Fire Insurance Society.

KOEHLER, FREDERICK—Born September 6, 1860, at Lexington, Michigan. Died October 2, 1922. Buried at Manchester, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1887. Ordained deacon, 1889; elder, 1891. Itinerancy, 1889. Pastorates: Ypsilanti, 1887-88; Portage Prairie and Buchanan, 1888-89; Litchfield, 1889-91; Lansing, 1891-92; North Bradley, 1892-94; Eureka, 1894-95; Byron, 1895-96; Vicksburg, 1896-97; Royalton, 1897-98; Portage Prairie, 1898-99; Marcellus, 1899-1902; Maple Grove, 1902-04; Oregon, 1904-06; Lenox, 1906-08; Marcellus, 1913-15; South Rockwood, 1915-20; Odgen, 1920-22. Secretary of Church Extension Society.

KOEHLER, GEORGE—Born August 19, 1869, Lexington, Michigan. Died August 14, 1918. Buried at Grand Rapids, Michigan. Recommended by Flint (First) class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1892. Ordained deacon, 1894; elder, 1896. Itinerancy, 1894. Pastorates: Litchfield, 1892-93; Vicksburg, 1893-94; Whiteford, 1894-96; Nashville, 1896-97; Ionia, 1897-1900; Monroe, 1900-03; Sebawaing, 1903-06; Washtenaw, 1906-08; Manchester, 1908-09; Detroit (Mack), 1909-10. Presiding elder: St. Joseph District, 1910-14; Grand Rapids District, 1914-18. Pastor: Grand Rapids (First), April to August, 1918. Delegate to General Conference, 1911 and 1915. (Illness prevented attendance in 1915.) Secretary of Fire Insurance Society.

KOHN, HAROLD E.—Born March 23, 1918, at Mayville, Michigan. Recommended by Flint (Kearsley) congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1936. Student pastor Woodland, September, 1939-40; Marcellus, 1940-.

KOHN, JOHN—Born September 15, 1857, Germany. Recommended by Moore congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1897. Ordained deacon, 1903. Never under appointment.

* KOLB, G.—Licensed, 1870. Deposed, 1872. Never under appointment.

* KOTESKEY, C. E.—Recommended by Horton Bay class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1916. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1925. Itinerancy, 1920. Pastorates: Verona, 1916-19; Kilmanagh, 1919-25; Leelenau, 1925-28; Hersey, 1928-34; Snover, 1934-39; Evart, 1939-.

KOTESKEY, J. H.—Born August 17, 1913, at Horton Bay, Michigan. Recommended by Horton Bay congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1932. Ordained deacon, 1937; elder, 1939. Itinerancy, 1937. Pastorates: Cohoctah, 1935-39; New Haven, 1939-.

KOTESKEY, WILLIAM—Born September 23, 1892, at Horton Bay, Michigan. Recommended by Horton Bay congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1913. Ordained deacon, 1915; elder, 1917. Itinerancy, 1915. Pastorates: Pontiac, 1913-15; Howell, 1915-20; Bay City, 1920-26; Detroit (Waterman), 1926-32; Detroit (Mack), 1932-40. District Superintendent: Bay City District, 1940-. Delegate to General Conference, 1938. Secretary of Conference Missionary Society, treasurer of Conference Missionary Society, treasurer of General Budget and state president E. L. C. E., 1925-26. Member of Board of Trustees Orphanage at Flat Rock, 1938-.

* KRAFT, G.—Local probationer, 1877. Never under appointment. No further information available.

* KRAUSE, S. P.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Pastorate: Three Rivers, 1884-85. No further information.

* KRAUSHAAR, F.—Received by credentials from Illinois Conference, 1886. Ordained elder, 1887. Itinerancy, 1886. Took credentials, 1888. Pastorates: Marcellus, 1886-87; Manistee, 1887-88.

KRETZSCHMER, RAYMOND H., A.B., B.D.—Born October 19, 1912, at Pigeon, Michigan. Recommended by Pigeon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1937. Pastorates: Marcellus, 1938-40; Eureka, 1940-.

KRIEG, HAROLD R.—Born October 2, 1907, at Detroit, Michigan. Recommended by Mack Avenue congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1931. Ordained deacon, 1936; elder, 1939. Itinerancy, 1936. Pastorates: Cohoctah, 1933-35; Wyandotte, 1935-40; Whitehouse, 1940-.

KRING, WILLIAM F.—Born August 3, 1859, in Fremont, Ohio. Died December 5, 1937. Buried at Adrian, Michigan. Recommended by East Raisenville congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1888. Ordained deacon, 1890; elder, 1892. Itinerancy, 1890. Pastorates: Monroe, 1888-89; Holt, 1889-90; Lansing, 1890-91; Nashville, 1891-92; Petoskey, 1892-95; Scottville, 1895-96; Whiteford, 1896-97; Wauseon, 1897-1900; West Unity, 1900-04; Jackson, 1904-07; Portage Prairie, 1907-12; Mt. Pleasant, 1912-17 and 1919-20; Wauseon, 1920-23; Ogden, 1923-25; Eureka, 1925-27.

- KRING, DONALD R., B.A., M.A., B.D.—Born April 4, 1910, Fayette, Ohio. Recommended by Blissfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1929. Ordained deacon, 1934; elder, 1936. Itinerancy, 1934. Pastorates: Big Woods congregation (student pastorate), 1932-34; Cloverdale, 1934-36; Maple Hill, 1936-40; Royalton, 1940-. Assistant Secretary of Conference.
- KRUEGER, CARL H.—Born December 31, 1855, in Germany. Died December 24, 1894. Buried at Howell, Michigan. Recommended by Flint (First) congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1888. Itinerancy, 1885. Pastorates: Lexington, 1884-87; Moore, 1887-88; Bay City, 1888-91; Howell, 1891-94. Assistant Secretary of Conference, 1892-93.
- KRUMLING, FREDERICK C., M.D.—Born June 15, 1876, Mason, Michigan. Recommended by Blissfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1906. Ordained deacon, 1908; elder, 1911. Itinerancy, 1908. Medical missionary to China, 1906-1918.
- *KRUPP, S.—Received by credentials from Canada Conference, 1905. Died, 1929. Active ministry spent in Canada Conference.
- KUEHN, AUGUST R.—Born January 27, 1889, at Memphis, Michigan. Recommended by Buel class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1915. Ordained deacon, 1917; elder, 1921. Itinerancy, 1917. Pastorates: Greenwood, 1915-16; Whiteford, 1916-19; Pontiac (Baldwin), 1919-24; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1924-25; Capac, 1925-28; Saginaw, 1928-32; Benton Harbor, 1932-34; Niles, 1934-40; Ionia, 1940-.
- KUEHN, AUGUST—Born February 18, 1840, in Germany. Died January 16, 1916. Burial Sanilac County, Michigan. Recommended by Lenox class. Licensed, 1878. Ordained deacon, 1890. Pastorate: Ridgeway, 1893-94.
- KURTH, ANDREW E., B.A., B.D.—Born May 18, 1903, at Blissfield, Michigan. Recommended by Ogden congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1924. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1927. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Ann Arbor, 1925-31; Detroit (Twelfth St.), 1931-40. Delegate to General Conference, 1938. President Conference Board of Christian Education, 1934-40. President of Conference Student Aid Society, 1929-40. Treasurer of Conference Church Extension Society, 1933-40. Author of "Taking Others Along." President of Detroit Council of Religious Education, 1940. Member of City Council in Ann Arbor, 1928-31. Credentials to Presbyterian Church, 1940.
- KUTTLER, GEORGE—Buried at Ionia, Michigan. Recommended by Ionia Society. Probationer 1865. Ordained deacon, 1874. Withdrawn, 1893. Served Woodland as a supply. Evidently served as a local preacher.
- LAHR, REX H.—Born August 4, 1893, Lucas County, Ohio. Recommended by Salem class, Whitehouse. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Ordained deacon, 1927; elder, 1929. Itinerancy, 1927. Pastorates: Clay, 1924-25; Maple Hill, 1925-27; East Gilead, 1927-28; Coleman, 1928-32; Ogden, 1932-39; Caro, 1939-.
- LANTZ, EWIN R., B.A., B.D.—Born September 5, 1891, Archibald, Ohio. Recommended by Elkton class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1926; elder, 1928. Itinerancy, 1926. Pastorates: Millburg, 1925-26 (student pastorate), Grand Rapids (First), 1926-30. Author of five pamphlets: "The Real Man of God." Stricken with infantile paralysis, 1926.

- LAUTNER, RUSSEL J.—Born June 21, 1903, Cedar, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Solon class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1927. Ordained deacon, 1932; elder, 1934. Itinerancy, 1932. Pastorates: Scottville, 1926-27; Traverse City, 1932-40; Elkton, 1940-. Vice-president Conference Deaconess Society.
- * LAWRENCE, J. A.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1879. Withdrawn, 1891. Never under appointment.
- LEE, LAWRENCE E.—Born October 23, 1903, Marcellus, Michigan. Recommended by Jackson (Greenwood Park). Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1940. Pastor: West Unity, 1940-.
- LEISENRING, E. B.—Received by credentials from Wesleyan Church, 1913. Withdrawn, 1915. Pastorate: Whiteford, 1912-15.
- LEMPKE, MELVIN F.—Born November 2, 1888, at Imlay City, Michigan. Recommended by Pontiac (Calvary) class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Credentials to Nebraska, 1926. Returned to Michigan, 1936. Pastorates: Carleton, September, 1936-41; Greenwood, 1941-.
- * LE VAN, JOHN W.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1917. Ordained deacon, 1920. Itinerancy, 1920. Withdrawn, 1926. Pastorates: Oregon, 1917-19; West Unity, 1919-20; Fowlerville, 1920-23.
- LEWIS, ALLEN—Born October 4, 1917, Toledo, Ohio. Recommended by Whitehouse congregation. Licensed by the Michigan Conference, 1940. College student.
- LIESEMER, NEWELL C., B.S., B.D.—Born June 14, 1905, at Detroit. Recommended by Mack Avenue congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1935. Ordained deacon, 1938. Elder, 1940. Itinerancy, 1938. Pastorates: Whitehouse, 1937-40; Detroit (Twelfth St.), 1940-.
- LINDLEY, JAMES E.—Recommended by Keswick class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Took credentials, 1921.
- * LINGE, SAMUEL—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1904. Withdrew about 1905. No record of withdrawal.
- LINK, HENRY W.—Born April 13, 1877, at Preston, Minn. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1917. Pastorates: Lansing, 1917-21; Owosso, 1925-31; Sebewaing, 1931-36; Flint (Kearsley), 1936-41; Blissfield, 1941-. Member of Conference Board of Trustees, 1930-34. President of Fire Insurance Society, 1935-.
- * LIKES, CLIFORD—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1926. Withdrawn, 1928. Never under appointment.
- LOCKWOOD, GEORGE C., B.A., B.D.—Born September 18, 1895, Allegan County, Michigan. Recommended by West Mendon class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1927. Itinerancy, 1927. Took credentials, 1935. Pastorate: Ellis Corners, 1925-27. Missionary to Marshall Islands, 1928-32.
- * LONG, C. W.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1900. Ordained deacon, 1902. Itinerancy, 1903. Withdrawn, 1903. Pastorates: Horton Bay, 1900-01; Vicksburg, 1901-03.
- * LONG, J.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1871. Ordained deacon, 1873. Itinerancy, 1872. Took credentials, 1873. Pastorates: Owosso, 1871-72; Grand Traverse, 1872-73.

* LOOSE, ELIAS—Local deacon, 1866. Withdrawn, 1866.

* LOOSE, JOHN W.—Born July 26, 1851, in Ohio. Died January 22, 1937. Burial at Three Rivers, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1871. Ordained deacon, 1873; elder, 1875. Itinerancy, 1872. Pastorates: St. Joseph Circuit, 1871-72; Monroe, 1872-73; Colon, 1873-74; Marshall, 1874-75; Lima, 1875-76; Jackson, 1876-79; Fulton, 1879-81; Erie, 1881-82; Carleton, 1882-83; Erie, 1883-85; Litchfield, 1885-87; Park, 1887-88; Vicksburg, 1888-90. Conference Treasurer, 1885-89. Frequent contributor to Church press.

LODER, WALFORD J.—Born December 11, 1897, at Concord, Michigan. Recommended by Francis Street, Jackson. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Credentials to Nebraska Conference, 1926.

LUTEN, H. A.—Born at Grand Rapids, Michigan. Received by credentials from Methodist Episcopal Church. Withdrawn, 1899. Never under appointment.

LYMAN, CHARLES W.—Born March 28, 1860, at Oswego, N. Y. Died September 11, 1930. Buried at Pigeon, Michigan. Received by credentials from Free Methodist Church, 1911. Itinerancy, 1912. Pastorates: Eureka, 1911-13; Ionia, 1913-15; Petoskey, 1915-21; Sebawaing, 1921-25; St. Joseph, 1925-28; Brown City, 1928-29; Cass City, 1929 to September, 1931. Secretary of Conference Committee on Memorials, 1921-31.

LYONS, GEORGE—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1928. Missionary to Africa. Never under appointment in conference.

MANEVAL, FRANK F.—Born October 17, 1889, at West Unity, Ohio. Recommended by Clay class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1923; elder, 1926. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorates: West Unity, 1921-22; Epsilon, 1922-27; Riverton, 1927-30; Eureka, 1930-34.

MANORE, LAWRENCE E.—Born January 19, 1878, at Carleton, Michigan. Recommended by Carleton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1917. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1922. Itinerancy, 1920. Pastorates: Pomona, 1918-19; Oregon, 1919-22; Lima, 1922-26; Eureka, 1926-30; Fremont, 1930-33; Mt. Pleasant, 1933-38; Park, 1938-.

MARSH, EDGAR L.—Born, Georgetown, Michigan, November 13, 1866. Recommended by Scottville class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1906. Ordained deacon, 1909; elder, 1912. Itinerancy, 1909. Pastorates: Whiteford, 1906-10; South Rockwood, 1910-12; Blissfield, 1912-17; Wauseon, 1917-18; Bainbridge, 1918-22; Washtenaw, 1922-25; Royalton, 1925-26; Wauseon, 1926-28; East Gilead, 1928-29; Maple Hill, 1929-32; Coleman, 1932-34; Lima, 1934-37.

* MARSHALL, JOHN J.—Born August 7, 1855, in Ohio. Died July 5, 1930. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1885. Ordained deacon, 1887; elder, 1889. Itinerancy, 1886. Pastorates: Riverton, 1885-86; Frankfort, 1886-87; Leelenau, 1887-88; Hart, 1888-90; Bristol, 1890-94; Rives, 1894-96; Verona, 1896-98; Riverton, 1898-1900; Fowlerville, 1900-03; Whittaker, 1903-04; Maple Grove, 1905-06; Eureka, 1907-09; Mt. Pleasant, 1909-12.

MARSHALL, WILLIAM R.—Born January 27, 1905, Scotland. Recommended by Harper Mission, Detroit. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1925. Took credentials, 1928. Never under appointment in conference.

- * MARTIN, G. J.—Credentials from Methodist Episcopal Church, 1884. Pastor: Ridgeway, 1884-85. No further information available.
- MARTIN, WILLIAM L.—Born November 6, 1874, Harrisville, Michigan. Died, 1939. Recommended by Bethel class, Wauseon. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1900. Ordained deacon, 1901; elder, 1904. Itinerancy, 1901. Pastorates: Wauseon, 1899-1901; Grand Rapids (First), 1901-05; Monroe, 1905-10. Took credentials to Ohio, 1910.
- * MATTESON, H. L.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1936. Never under appointment.
- * MAY, L. P. Licensed, 1908. Withdrawn, 1914. Pastorate: Vicksburg, 1908-09.
- * McBRIDE, H. B.—Born November 11, 1811, Stark County, Ohio. Died June 12, 1894. Buried St. Joseph, Mo. Received by credentials from Pittsburgh Conference, 1865. Took credentials, 1868. Pastorate: Adrian Circuit, 1865-67.
- * McDIVITT, W. S.—Received by credentials from Free Methodist Church, 1901. Itinerancy, 1903. Deposed, 1907. Pastorates: Monroe, 1903-05; West Unity, 1905-07.
- * McDONALD, SANFORD—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1904. Withdrawn, 1906. Pastor: Bristol, 1905-06; Horton Bay, 1906 to August.
- * McEWEN, S.—Withdrawn, 1891. No further information. Never under appointment.
- * McNICKLE, D. J.—Received by credentials from Congregational Church, 1900. Withdrawn, 1903. Never under appointment.
- * McQUILLEN, J. M.—Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1865. Deacon, 1865; elder, 1866. Died, 1905. Never under appointment in Michigan.
- * MECK, JOHN—Born in Germany, January 14, 1827. Died May 28, 1897. Buried, Naperville, Ill. Charter member Michigan Conference. Took credentials, 1892. Pastorates: Owosso, 1865-66; Ionia, 1866-68; Bainbridge, 1868-70. Presiding elder: Flint District, 1870-74; Detroit District, 1874-75. Pastor: Bainbridge, 1879-82; Dearborn, 1882-85; Hersey, 1885-88; Caledonia, 1888-90. Delegate to General Conference, 1867, 1871, 1875, 1879, 1887. Chairman of delegation, 1871. Secretary of Conference, 1865, 1866, 1868.
- MYERS, CLEO E.—Born October 19, 1898, Maysville, Mo. Recommended by Harlan class, Pomona. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1924. Took credentials, 1925. Pastorates: Horton Bay, 1921-22; Leelenau, 1922-24.
- MEYER, F. F.—Born January 24, 1839, Germany. Died October 28, 1892. Burial in Dakota. Received by credentials from Canada, 1876. Itinerancy, 1876. Took credentials to Indiana, 1880. Pastorates: Dearborn, 1875-77; Hersey, 1877-79; Portage Prairie, 1879-80. Secretary of Conference, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880.
- MILLER, JOHN—Born March 20, 1832, Germany. Died May 3, 1912. Buried Benton Harbor, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1873. Ordained deacon, 1874; elder, 1877. Itinerancy, 1875. Pastorates: Caledonia, 1875-76; Cass City, 1876-77; Sebewaing, 1877-78; Isabella, 1878-80; Ridge-

- way, 1880-81; Capac, 1881-83; Maple Hill, 1883-84; Bainbridge, 1884-90; Woodland, 1890-91. Regimental chaplain during Civil War.
- * MILLER, C.—Received by credentials, 1898. Took credentials, 1901. Pastor: Marshall, 1900-01.
- * MILLER, E. B.—Born November 12, 1829, Northampton, Pa. Died February 21, 1907, Pawnee Rock. Buried Pawnee Rock, Kansas. Received by credentials, 1867. Took credentials to Erie Conference, 1887. Pastorates: Berrien, 1867-68; Marshall, 1868-69; St. Joseph Circuit, 1869-70; South Haven, 1870-72; Lima, 1872-73; St. Joseph Circuit, 1873-74; Fremont, 1874-75; Mason, 1875-76.
- MILLER, M. J.—Born July 16, 1828, North Hampton County, Pa. Died November 15, 1912. Received by credentials from Kansas Conference, 1866. Itinerancy, 1866. Withdrawn, 1875. Pastorates: Presiding elder: Detroit District, 1866-68; St. Joseph District, 1868-73. Pastor: Marshall, 1873-74. Presided at Conference Session of 1869. Delegate to General Conference, 1867, 1871.
- MILLER, R. C.—Born June 4, 1888. Recommended by Epsilon church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Ordained deacon, 1926. Itinerancy, 1926. Pastorates: Pomona, 1924-27; Horton Bay, 1927-31; Leelenau, 1931-32. Took credentials, 1936.
- * MOELLER, SAMUEL—Born April 23, 1873, at Zurich, Ont. Died November 5, 1938. Buried at Lansing, Michigan. Recommended by Sebewaing congregation. Licensed by the Michigan Conference, 1904. Ordained deacon, 1908; elder, 1911. Itinerancy, 1908. Pastorates: Avery, 1906-07; Bristol, 1907-08; Evart, 1908-10; Leelenau, 1910-12; Maple Hill, 1912-16; Riverton, 1916-18; Hersey, 1918-23; Capac, 1923-25; Traverse City, 1925-29; Howell, 1929-33; Blissfield, 1933-34; East Detroit, 1934 to November, 1938. President of Conference Church Extension Society, 1931-37.
- * MOGLE, BLAIR T.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1911. Withdrawn, 1913. Never under appointment.
- MOHR, BENJAMIN—Born July 8, 1875, at Riga, Michigan. Died February 22, 1938. Buried at Hersey, Michigan. Recommended by Riga congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1899. Ordained deacon, 1901; elder, 1903. Itinerancy, 1901. Pastorates: LeRoy, 1899-1902; Leelenau, 1902-05; Maple Hill, 1905-08; Caledonia, 1908-13; Riverton, 1913-16; Elkton, 1916-21; Capac, 1921-23; Ionia, 1923-26; Caro, 1926-27; Howell, 1927-29; Reed City, 1929-36; Scottville, 1936 to February, 1938. Treasurer Church Extension Society six years. President Conference Missionary Society three years. Treasurer Presiding Elder Salary Fund seven years. Vice-president Deacons Society three years. Member of Ways and Means Committee twenty-six years.
- MOYER, THOMAS A., B.A.—Born October 4, 1889, at Caledonia, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Epsilon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1923; elder, 1925. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorates: Evart-LeRoy, 1921-22; Pomona, 1922-24; Scottville, 1924-26; Symerton, Ill. (student charge), 1927; Marcellus, 1928-35; Riverton, 1935-37; Maple Grove, 1938-.
- * MOYER, W. H.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1901. Ordained deacon, 1905. Withdrawn, 1909. Pastorates: Bristol, 1902-05; Royalton, 1905-08.

- * MOYER, F. W.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1906. Withdrawn, 1907. Pastorate: Petoskey as assistant, 1906 (left during year).
- * MORNINGSTAR, OLIVER—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1914. Withdrawn, 1922. Pastorate: Coleman, 1914-15.
- MUELLER, FREDERICK—Born May 28, 1843, Germany. Died April 30, 1914. Buried at Cleveland, Ohio. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1872. Ordained deacon, 1874; elder, 1876. Itinerancy, 1873. Took credentials, 1887. Pastorates: Detroit, 1872-74; Whitehouse, 1874-75; Detroit, 1875-78; Ionia, 1878-81; Bay City, 1881-82. Presiding elder: North Michigan District, 1882-86. Pastor: Reed City, 1886-87.
- MURBACH, GEORGE C.—Born September 12, 1885, Whitehouse, Ohio. Recommended by Whitehouse congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1908. Ordained deacon, 1914; elder, 1916. Itinerancy, 1914. Pastorates: Whittaker, 1912-14; Carleton, 1914-16; Benton Harbor, 1916-21; Leighton-1921-24; Petoskey, 1924-31; Pigeon, 1931-36; Brown City, 1936-40; South Rockwood, 1940-.
- * MULLETT, ANDREW J.—Born May 14, 1864, in Ohio. Died April 30, 1939. Buried at Sheppard, Michigan. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1905. Not under appointment in Michigan.
- NELSON, WILLIAM S.—Born May 23, 1893, New York City. Recommended by Wyandotte congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1925. Ordained deacon, 1930; elder, 1932. Itinerancy, 1931. Pastorates: Hazel Park, 1929-30; Wyandotte, 1930-32; Erie, 1932-34; Whittaker, 1934-39; Cohoctah, 1939-. Hospital chaplain under Detroit Council of Churches, 1928-32; chaplain federal prison, Milan, 1934-.
- * NELSON, A. D.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1909. Apparently withdrawn, 1910.
- * NEUBER, JOHN G.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1894. Ordained deacon, 1896; elder, 1898. Itinerancy, 1896. Took credentials, 1927. Pastorates: Hersey, 1894-95; Leelenau, 1895-99; Royalton, 1899-1900; Caledonia, 1902-05.
- NICOLAI, ANDREW—Born February 5, 1814, in Germany. Died March 21, 1901. Buried in Sharon cemetery. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1843. Came from Indiana Conference to become charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Pastorates in Michigan Conference—Presiding elder: St. Joseph District, 1864-68; Detroit District, 1868-71; Adrian District, 1871-72. Pastor: Bainbridge, 1874-75; Washtenaw, 1875-76. Delegate to General Conference, 1867-1871.
- NICOLAI, JOHN, M.D.—Born, 1818, in Germany. Died March 24, 1912. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1841. Missionary to Germany, 1851. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1878. Itinerancy, 1878. Pastorate in Michigan: Sebawaing, 1878-81.
- NIERGARTH, JOHN R., D.D.—Born September 7, 1868, in Ontario. Credentials from Washington Conference, 1895. Ordained deacon, 1896; elder, 1898. Itinerancy, 1896. Pastorates: Nashville, 1895-96; St. Joseph, 1896-99; Buchanan, 1899-1903; Flint, 1903-07; Ionia, 1907-10. Presiding elder: Grand Rapids District, 1910-14; St. Joseph District, 1914-18; Flint District, 1918-20. Secretary Forward Movement, 1920. Treasurer Superannuation Fund, 1921-34. General secretary Superannuation Fund, 1934-38. President of Con-

ference Missionary Society and president of Conference Student Aid Society. Delegate to General Conference, 1911, 1915, 1919, 1922, 1934. Chairman of delegation, 1911.

*NORTON, A.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1885. Withdrawn, 1891. Never under appointment.

NORTON, JAY E.—Born December 16, 1892, Burlington, Colorado. Recommended by S. Maple Grove congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1938. Pastorates: Schultz, 1933-34; Ellis Corners, 1937-.

*NUTT, WILLIAM N.—Recommended by Buchanan congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1924; elder, 1926. Itinerancy, 1924. Pastorates: West Unity, 1921-25; Maple Grove, 1925-30.

NYCE, JOHN M.—Born Mainland, Pa., May 25, 1858. Died August 9, 1931. Buried at Detroit. Recommended by Petoskey congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Ordained deacon, 1891; elder, 1893. Itinerancy, 1891. Pastorates: Scottville, three months, January 1 to April, 1889; Hope, 1889-91; Maple Grove, 1891-92; Whiteford, 1892-94; Wauseon, 1894-97; Monroe, 1897-1900; Blissfield, 1900-03; Detroit (Grand River), 1903-06; Sebawaing, 1906-10; Detroit (Mack Ave.), 1910-12. Presiding elder: Flint District, 1912-16; Detroit District, 1916-20. Pastor: Dearborn, 1920-27; Pontiac (Baldwin), 1927-28. Delegate to General Conference, 1911, 1915, 1919, 1922, 1926. He was chairman of the delegation in 1915. Treasurer of Conference Missionary Society, 1902-12 and 1919-23.

OESCHGER, HAROLD D., B.A., B.D.—Born January 13, 1901, at Kilmanagh, Michigan. Recommended by Kilmanagh congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1924. Ordained deacon, 1931; elder, 1936. Itinerancy, 1931. Pastorates: Sublette, Ill. (student pastor), 1929-34; Erie, 1934-41; Howell, 1941-.

OESCHGER, MANTON, B.A.—Born January 5, 1901, at Sebawaing, Michigan. Recommended by Kilmanagh congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Withdrawn, 1936. Never under appointment.

*OLDT, MAYNARD A.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1895. Ordained deacon, 1897. Itinerancy, 1898. Took credentials, 1899. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1895-96; Rives, 1896-97; Mt. Pleasant, 1897-99.

OLDT, WESLEY B., M. A., Ph. D.—Born New Berlin, Pa., September 14, 1875. Recommended by Riverton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1896. Ordained deacon, 1897; elder, 1902. Itinerancy, 1899. Took credentials, 1906. Pastorates: Marshall and Litchfield, 1896-97; Shelby, 1897-98; Petoskey, 1899-1903; Howell, 1903-05.

ORTH, JOHN H.—Born March 21, 1832, in Germany. Died January 5, 1912. Buried at Fowlerville. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1866. Ordained deacon, 1869; elder, 1871. Itinerancy, 1867. Pastorates: Ionia, 1867-68; Osceola, 1868-70; Barry, 1870-72; Capac, 1872-74; Sanilac, 1874-76; Owosso, 1876-77; Ridgeway, 1877-78; Dearborn, 1878-80; Maple Hill, 1880-83; Sebawaing, 1883-84; Washtenaw, 1884-86; Bainbridge and St. Joseph, 1886-87; Bainbridge, 1887-88; Imlay City, 1888-91; Ridgeway, 1891-93.

OSTROTH, ALBERT—Born June 17, 1854, in Barry County, Michigan. Died September 13, 1935. Burial at Nashville. Recommended by North Maple Grove class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1887. Ordained dea-

con, 1889; elder, 1892. Itinerancy, 1889. Pastorates: Riverton, October, 1887-90; Eureka, 1890-93; Whittaker, 1893-95; Park, 1895-97; Fremont, 1897-1901; Portage Prairie, 1901-04; West Unity, 1904-05; Caro, 1905-09; Riverton, 1909-13; Owosso, 1913-17; Leighton, 1917-21; Brown City, 1921-23; Maple Grove, 1923-29; Fremont, 1929-30. President of Conference Fire Insurance Society, 1912-18.

OSTROTH, DELBERT C., Ph.B., Ph.M., B.D., M.R.E.—Born October 19, 1880, Barry County, Michigan. Recommended by Portage Prairie congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903. Ordained deacon, 1907; elder, 1909. Itinerancy, 1907. Pastorates: Detroit (Grand River), 1906-10; Ionia, 1910-13; Detroit (Hamilton), 1913-16. (Served in New England and Colorado Conferences, 1916-27); Lansing, 1927-34; Detroit (Calvary), 1934-36. District Superintendent: Bay City District, 1936-40. Pastor: Waterman Avenue, Detroit, 1940-. Delegate to General Conference, 1919, 1922, 1930, 1934, 1938 (unable to attend, 1938). President Conference Branch Y. P. A., secretary Fire Insurance Society, Director Religious Education, 1926-34, member of Conference Trustee Board, 1936-40. Author of "Conference Program of Religious Education."

OSTROTH, SAMUEL—Born April 20, 1866, in Barry County, Michigan. Recommended by North Maple Grove class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1909. Pastorate: Whittaker, 1909-11.

* OVIATT, ARCHIE M.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1912. Withdrawn, 1916. Pastor: Greenwood, 1912-13; Gladwin, 1913-14.

PALMER, WAYNE M.—Born February 10, 1900, at Bangor, Michigan. Recommended by Niles congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1926. Ordained deacon, 1929; elder, 1932. Itinerancy, 1932. Pastorates: Epsilon, 1927-28; Leelenau, 1928-31; Whiteford, 1931-37; Gladwin, 1937-41; Owendale, 1941-.

* PARKER, ANDREW—Born March 7, 1837, Union County, Pa. Died February 19, 1895. Received as local elder in 1894. Never under appointment.

PARKER, CLETUS A., B.A., B.D.—Born August 6, 1901, at Owendale, Michigan. Recommended by Owendale class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1929; elder, 1931. Itinerancy, 1929. Pastorates: Ida, 1928-35; Pontiac (Baldwin), 1935-. Treasurer of Conference Student Aid Society. Member of Conference Board of Christian Education.

* PAULEN, JOSHUA—Born October 16, 1825, Columbiana County, Ohio. Died November 9, 1899. Buried Newton, Kansas. Licensed by Indiana Conference, 1857. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Pastorates: Berrien, 1865-66; Fulton, 1866-67; Blissfield, 1867-69; Ann Arbor, 1869-71; Litchfield, 1872-73; Lima, 1873-74; Fulton, 1874-75; Portage Prairie, 1875-77; Mason, 1877-78; Ludington, 1878-79; Marcellus, 1879-80. Name removed, 1888, because of his having moved to Kansas.

PECK, W. P.—Born April 16, 1903, at Kingston, Michigan. Recommended by Pontiac (Baldwin Ave.), congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1929. Ordained deacon, 1931; elder, 1933. Itinerancy, 1931. Pastorates: Oregon, 1929-30; Pontiac (Calvary), 1930-36; Howell, 1936-41; Monroe, 1941-. Assistant secretary of conference.

- *PENTICOFF, O. C.—Received by credentials, 1906. Ordained elder, 1907. Itinerancy, 1906. Took credentials, 1913. Pastorates: Howell, 1905-07; Nashville, 1907-09; Caro, 1909-13.
- PERONE, EDWARD A.—Born at Capac, Michigan. Died May 31, 1920. Buried at Capac. Recommended by North Capac class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1905. Ordained deacon, 1909. Itinerancy, 1909. Pastorates: Coleman, 1905-06; Gladwin, 1906-08; Hortons Bay, 1908-11; Petoskey, 1911-15; Traverse City, 1915-17; Maple Grove, 1917-19; Erie 1919-20.
- *PFEIFLE, C.—Licensed, 1872. Name stricken, 1873. Pastor: Sebewaing, 1872-73.
- *PFEFFER, C.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1870. Took credentials, 1871. Pastor: Capac, 1870-71.
- *PIPENBURG, E.—Licensed, 1926. Withdrawn, 1936. Never under appointment.
- *PLOCHER, ABRAHAM—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1872. Never under appointment.
- POHLY, FREDERICK L.—Born December 23, 1887, at Avoca, Michigan. Recommended by East Greenwood class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1911. Ordained deacon, 1913; elder, 1917. Itinerancy, 1913. Pastorates: Erie, 1910-12; Ellis Corners, 1912-14; Royalton, 1916-18; Brown City, 1918 to October 31, 1920; Cass City, November 5, 1920-24; Traverse City, 1924-25; Sebewaing, 1925-31; Whitehouse, 1931-37; Whiteford, 1937-. Vice-president Conference Missionary Society and corresponding secretary Conference Branch Y. P. A.
- POHLY, GLENN J., B.A., M.D.—Born March 2, 1903, Detroit, Michigan. Recommended by Carleton class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Withdrawn, 1939, because of residence in Illinois.
- POHLY, PHILIP H.—Born December 1, 1859, at Detroit, Michigan. Died June 29, 1940. Buried at Howell, Michigan. Recommended by Howell church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1898. Ordained deacon, 1900; elder, 1902. Itinerancy, 1900. Pastorates: Caro, 1898-1901; Detroit, Waterman, 1901-04; Washtenaw, 1904-06; Owosso, 1906-10; Elkton, 1910-12; Traverse City, 1912-15; Hersey, 1915-18; Carleton, 1918-21. Treasurer of Conference Sunday School and Tract Union.
- POHLY, WILLIAM Y., B.A., M.A.—Born March 7, 1887, at Howell, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1907. Took credentials, 1914. Never under appointment in Michigan Conference.
- POLMANTEER, LEROY—Born April 4, 1878, Kent County, Michigan. Recommended by Caro congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1916. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1920. Pastorates: Whiteford, 1915-16; Owendale, 1916-17; Detroit (Kercheval), 1917-19; Evangelist, 1919-20; Saginaw, October, 1920-28; Flint (Kearsley), 1928-32. Evangelist, 1938-39. Secretary Conference Deaconess Society.
- PONTIUS, J. K.—Born October 9, 1826, in Pickaway County, Ohio. Died July 17, 1887. Burial at Flint. Licensed by Ohio Conference. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1876. Pastorates: Ridgeway, 1876-77; Capac, 1877-79; Flint, 1879-81; Ridgeway, 1881-82; Imlay City, 1883-85; Owosso, 1885 to July, 1887.

PRITCHARD, ELMER—Born August 29, 1888, Chehalis, Washington. Recommended by Detroit (Harper Ave.) congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Ordained deacon, 1928; elder, 1932. Itinerancy, 1928. Pastorates: Hortons Bay, 1923-25; Imlay City, 1926-28; Carleton, 1928-29; Park, 1929-35; Nashville, 1935-38; Hersey, 1938-.

PROVOST, GEORGE—Born February 19, 1848, Fairfax, Vt. Died April 20, 1912. Buried at Bangor, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1875. Ordained deacon, 1878; elder, 1880. Itinerancy, 1877. Withdrawn, 1892. Pastorates: Leelenau, 1876-78; Bangor, 1878-80; Bangor, 1886-87.

* PUTNAM, FORREST E.—Born December 18, 1895. Died February 15, 1930. Buried at Jackson, Michigan. Recommended by Jackson (Greenwood Park). Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Ordained deacon, 1923; elder, 1925. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorates: Nashville, 1922-25; Kalamazoo, 1925-29; East Detroit, 1929-30. Conference Statistician, 1925-30.

* QUINT, HAROLD L.—Born June 12, 1897. Died November 1, 1931. Buried at Detroit. Recommended by Detroit (Harper Ave.) congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Pastor: Hereford Avenue, Detroit, 1926-30.

RADUCHEL, GUSTAVE—Born January 1, 1876, at Marine City, Michigan. Recommended by Moore congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1910. Ordained deacon, 1912; elder, 1914. Itinerancy, 1912. Pastorates: Gladwin, 1910-11; Coleman, 1911-13; Fremont, 1913-15; Leelenau, 1915-19; Maple Hill, 1919-23; Hersey, 1923-25; Kilmanagh, 1925-29; Mt. Pleasant, 1929-33; Bainbridge, 1933-.

RAGATZ, OSWALD—Born March 17, 1833, Switzerland. Died April 26, 1900. Buried Royalton Heights. Licensed by Wisconsin Conference, 1853. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1871. Itinerancy, 1872. Pastorates: St. Joseph, 1871-73; Lake Shore, 1873-74; Portage Prairie, 1877-79; Caledonia, 1879-80.

* RAGATZ, A. F.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1898. Field secretary for American Bible Society. Never under appointment in Michigan.

RATH, ELIAS—Born March 8, 1858, Hamilton, Ontario. Recommended by Bennington class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1887. Ordained deacon, 1890; elder, 1893. Itinerancy, 1890. Pastorates: Moore, 1888-91; Flint, 1891-93; Royalton, 1893-94; St. Joseph, 1894-95; Royalton, 1895-96; Bainbridge, 1896-99; Leelenau, 1899-1902; Riverton, 1902-05; Reed City, 1905-09; Treasurer of Conference Sunday School and Tract Union.

* REIDT, C. E.—Received by credentials, 1917. Withdrawn, 1918. Pastor: Ferndale, 1917-18.

RENNER, E. M.—Born July 31, 1866, Steuben County, Ind. Died July 27, 1924. Burial at Vicksburg, Michigan. Recommended by Vicksburg congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1888. Ordained deacon, 1892; elder, 1895. Itinerancy, 1892. Pastorates: Bristol, 1888-89; Petoskey, 1891-92; Scottville, 1892-94; Verona, 1894-96; West Unity, 1896-98; Whittaker, 1898-1900; Flint, 1900-01; Royalton, 1901-03; Fremont, 1903-06; Maple Grove, 1906-07; Evangelist, 1907-08; Benton Harbor, 1908-12; Niles, 1912-16; Vicksburg, 1916-20.

REYNOLDS, ALVIA—Born November 1, 1901, at Wapello, Iowa. Recommended by Detroit (Harper Ave.). Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Took credentials, 1936. Pastor: Hereford Mission, 1930-31.

RHINES, HARRY J.—Born, 1892, at Ashley, Michigan. Recommended by Eureka congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1923. Withdrawn, 1930. Pastor: Boyne City, 1923-26.

RHOADES, E. F.—Born July 8, 1889, at Kunkle, Ohio. Recommended by Cloverdale class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1929. Pastor: Maple Grove, 1929-38; Scottville, 1938-.

RICHARDS, CHARLES R.—Born October 22, 1875, in Indiana. Recommended by Fulton class, Eureka. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903. Ordained deacon, 1905; elder, 1907. Itinerancy, 1905. Pastorates: Eureka, 1903-04; Scottville, 1904-06; Wauseon, 1906-08; Fremont, 1908-13; Kalamazoo, 1913-16; Niles, 1916-17.

RICHARDS, JUDSON W.—Born June 18, 1870, near Hamilton, Ont. Licensed by Canada Conference. Received by Michigan Conference with credentials from Pittsburgh Conference, 1922. Pastorate: Blissfield, 1922-26.

* RICHARDS, PAUL F.—Born July 24, 1906, at Wauseon, Ohio. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1933. Ordained deacon, 1935. Itinerancy, 1935. Pastorates: Chesaning, 1933-35; Maple Hill, 1935-36. Withdrawn, 1940.

RIEBEL, ELMER D., B.A., B.D., M.A., Ph.D.—Born 1887, Roseville, Ont. Recommended by Detroit (First) church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1912. Ordained deacon, 1919; elder, 1921. Itinerancy, 1919. Pastorates: Buchanan, 1917-24; Detroit (Grand River), 1924-26; Bay City, 1926-28. Professor Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1928-. Treasurer Conference Missionary Society. Delegate to General Conference, 1926.

RIEBEL, JOHN—Born June 11, 1863, in Canada. Died April 16, 1933. Buried in Detroit. Recommended by Burnside class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1894. Ordained deacon, 1896; elder, 1898. Itinerancy, 1896. Pastorates: Bay City, 1894-96; Howell, 1896-99; Reed City, 1899-1903; Hersey, 1903-07; Blissfield, 1907-09; Detroit (First), 1909-14; Capac, 1914-16; Reed City, 1916-19; South Rockwood, 1920-24; East Detroit, 1924-29; Woodland, 1931-33. Treasurer of Conference Deaconess Society, vice-president Conference Missionary Society and treasurer of Fire Insurance Society.

RIEGEL, REUBEN—Born April 22, 1818, Mifflin County, Pa. Died May 14, 1890. Buried at Elkhart, Ind. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1846. Pastorates: St. Joseph Circuit, 1865-66; Marshall, 1866-68; Fremont, 1876-77; Marcellus, 1877-78. Took credentials to Indiana Conference, 1884. Served most of ministry in Ohio and Indiana Conferences.

RIEMKE, WM.—Born in Germany. Buried in Kansas. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1865. Ordained deacon, 1871; elder, 1873. Itinerancy, 1870. Pastorates: Genesee Mission, 1865-66; Marshall, 1869-70; Ionia, 1870-72; Sebawaing, 1872-75; Bainbridge, 1875-77; Ida, 1877-78. Transferred to Kansas Conference.

* RITCHIE, NOEL—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1914. Withdrawn, 1920. Pastorates: Whittaker, 1914-15; Marshall, 1915-16.

* ROBINSON, D.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1898. Withdrawn, 1899. Never under appointment.

* RODESILER, CHARLES—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1902. Ordained deacon, 1904. Itinerancy, 1904. Credentials to Illinois, 1929. Pastorates: Chelsea, 1902-03; Washtenaw, 1903-04; Greenwood, 1904-07;

Hersey, 1907-08; Pigeon, 1908-11; Capac, 1911-14; Pigeon, 1916-19; Owosso, 1919-22.

ROEHM, C.—Born January 6, 1811, in Germany. Died May 21, 1889. Buried near Owosso. Licensed by Ohio Conference. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Itinerancy, 1875. Pastorates: Dearborn, 1865-66; St. Clair, 1866-67; Capac, 1867-68; Genesee, 1868-69; Flint, 1869-70; Owosso, 1870-72; Osceola, 1872-73; Oregon, 1875-77. Served in Michigan before conference was organized.

ROHLAND, D. C.—Born September 7, 1820, at Waigleville, Pa. Died November 22, 1900. Buried at Amboy Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1857. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Pastorates: Fremont, 1868-69; Fulton, 1869-70; Litchfield, 1870-71; Fremont, 1871-72; Amboy, 1872-73; South Haven, 1873-74; Bangor, 1874-75; Fulton, 1875-76.

* ROOT, F. S.—Licensed, 1876. Withdrawn, 1879. Never under appointment.

ROSE, DELBERT R., B.A.—Born September 17, 1912, at Corunna, Michigan. Recommended by Owosso church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1935. Student.

ROSS, C. W.—Born November 11, 1854, in Germany. Died November 29, 1908. Buried at Canby, Oregon. Recommended by Oregon class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1888. Itinerancy, 1885. Credentials to Oregon Conference, 1907. Pastorates: Manistee, 1884-85; Bad Axe, 1885-86; Petoskey, 1886-87; Maple Hill, 1887-89; Ridgeway, 1889-91; Dearborn, 1891-94; Forestville, 1894-95; Cass City, 1895-96; Royalton, 1896-97; Washtenaw, 1897-99; West Detroit, 1899-1901; Gladwin, 1903-06.

* ROTH, JACOB W. (Also spelled Rood, Road and Rote in records)—Licensed, 1868. Appears as having been received by credentials from Free Methodist Church in 1879. Withdrawn, 1891. Pastorate: Fremont, 1869-71. He seems to have served as pastor before being received into the conference.

* ROTHERICK, CLYDE—Licensed, 1918. Withdrawn, 1920. Never under appointment.

* ROW, J. A.—Received by credentials from United Brethren Church, 1900. Withdrawn, 1905. Never under appointment.

RUEGSEGGER, LESTER A.—Born February 25, 1904, at Maple City, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Kason congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1931. Ordained deacon, 1933; elder, 1935. Pastorates: Gladwin, 1932-37; Riverton, 1937-.

RUMBERGER, DANIEL P.—Born August 25, 1837, at Wisconsin, Pa. Died March 3, 1905. Buried at Scottville. Credentials from Central Pa. Conference, 1876. Ordained elder, 1876. Itinerancy, 1876. Pastorates: Whitehouse, 1875-77; Monroe, 1877-79; Ludington, 1879-81; Riverton, 1881-82; Greenbush, 1882-83; Eureka, 1883-84; Fremont, 1884-86; West Unity, 1886-88; Whitehouse, 1888-90; Riverton, 1890-91; Byron, 1891-93; Ridgeway, 1894-96; Whitehouse, 1896-98.

RUSSELL, A.—Born January 9, 1830, at Rensselaer County, N. Y. Died October 26, 1891. Buried at Coldwater, Michigan. Recommended by East Gilead class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1873. Ordained deacon, 1878.

- Itinerancy, 1878. Pastorates: Amboy, 1873-74; Bangor, 1876-77; Springport, 1878-79; Whittaker and Carleton, 1890-91; Scottville, 1891 to time of death.
- RUTH, DALVIN O.—Born July 2, 1874, in St. Joseph County, Michigan. Died February 26, 1937. Buried at Center Park, Michigan. Recommended by Center Park class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1894. Ordained deacon, 1898; elder, 1902. Itinerancy, 1898. Pastorates: Bristol, 1897-99; Whitehouse, 1899-1901; Traverse City, 1901-04; Portage Prairie, 1904-07; Niles, 1907-10; Grand Rapids (First), 1910-11; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1911-14; Vicksburg, 1914-15; Monroe, 1915-20; Detroit (Grand River), 1920-22; Leighton, 1924-28. Conference Statistical Secretary, 1910.
- RYAN, HERBERT E., B.A.—Born March 10, 1910, at Chicago, Illinois. Recommended by Buchanan church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1929. Ordained deacon, 1934; elder, 1936. Pastorates: Ellis Corners, 1930-32; Scottville, 1933-36; West Unity, 1936-40; Vicksburg, 1940-.
- SALSBERY, SIMON—Born April 29, 1855, at Richfield, Ohio. Died September 26, 1937. Burial at Grandlawn cemetery, Detroit. Recommended by New Haven class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1892. Ordained deacon, 1894; elder, 1897. Itinerancy, 1894. Pastorates: Lennon, 1892-93; Blissfield, 1893-95; Pomona, 1895-97; Traverse City, 1897-1901; Elkton, 1901-05; Lima, 1905-08; Dearborn, 1908-12; Lima Center, 1923-25.
- SANDERS, CHARLES A.—Born December 21, 1881. Recommended by Center Riverton class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1907. Ordained deacon, 1917; elder, 1920. Itinerancy, 1917. Pastorates: Pomona, 1907-10; Evart, 1910-11; Coleman, 1916-18; Owendale, 1918-22; Owosso, 1922-25; Hersey, 1925-26; Carleton, 1926-28; Portage Prairie, 1928-30; Caro, 1930-35; Buchanan, 1935-40; Traverse City, 1940-.
- * SASS, J.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Withdrawn, 1890. Never under appointment.
- * SCHAEFER, CARL—Licensed, 1871. No further information. Never under appointment.
- * SCHAEFER, D. C.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1889. Withdrawn, 1897. Pastorates: Bristol, 1889-90; Pomona, 1891-92.
- * SCHAEFER, J. F.—Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1884. Withdrawn, 1899. Pastor: Colon, 1886-87.
- SCHAFER, D. W.—Born March 16, 1827, in Germany. Died February 17, 1899. Buried at Ida. Recommended by Ida congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1872. Ordained deacon, 1875; elder, 1877. Itinerancy, 1874. Pastorates: Monroe, 1873-74; Ridgeway, 1874-76; Hersey, 1876-77; Bainbridge, 1877-79; Blissfield, 1879-82; Washtenaw, 1882-84; Sebawaing, 1884-86; Capac, 1886-89; Byron, 1889-90; Whitehouse, 1890-92.
- SCHEIFELE, LLOYD S.—Born September 3, 1896, Waterloo County, Ont. Recommended by Detroit (Kercheval Ave.) church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1926. Ordained deacon, 1932; elder, 1934. Itinerancy, 1932. Pastorates: East Detroit, 1930-34; Blissfield, 1934-41; Kalamazoo, 1941-.
- SCHEURER, ADAM A.—Born January 24, 1850, at Tonowanda, N. Y. Died July 31, 1920. Buried at South Rockwood, Michigan. Recommended by Zion class, Erie charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1879. Ordained

deacon, 1881; elder, 1883. Itinerancy, 1880. Pastorates: Greenbush (Eureka), 1879-82; Riverton, 1882-84; Fulton, 1884-86; South Rockwood, 1886-88; South Rockwood and Carleton, 1888-89; Monroe Circuit, 1889-92; Park, 1892-94; South Rockwood, 1894-97; Jackson, 1897-1900; Sebewaing, 1900-03; Blissfield, 1903-07; Howell, 1907-08; Capac, 1908-11; Pigeon, 1911-15; Dearborn, 1915-20; South Rockwood, 1920 (four months). Conference treasurer, 1893-1918.

* SCHEURER, PETER—Born August 27, 1851. Died July 20, 1929. Burial at Manchester. Recommended by Zion class, Erie charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1888. Itinerancy, 1885. Pastorates: Eureka, 1884-87; Erie, 1887-89; South Rockwood and Carleton, 1889-92; Nashville, 1892-93; Riverton, 1893-95; Eureka, 1895-97; Caledonia, 1897-1900; Jackson, 1900-04; Dearborn, 1904-08; Washtenaw, 1908-12; Elkton, 1912-16; Portage Prairie, 1916-20. Treasurer of Conference Church Extension Society, 1892-1910.

* SCHEURERMAN, L.—Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1872. Took credentials, 1875. Presiding elder: Adrian District, 1872-74; St. Joseph District, 1874-75.

SCHLEICHER, O. P.—Born August 24, 1858, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Received by credentials from Christian Crusaders, 1899. Ordained deacon, 1900; elder, 1902. Itinerancy, 1900. Pastorates: Pomona, 1899-1901; Whiteford, 1901-02; Erie, 1902-05; Whiteford, 1905-07; West Unity, 1907-11; Ida, 1911-15; Fremont, 1915-19; Washtenaw, 1919-22; Howell, 1922-25; Pontiac (Calvary), 1925-28; Snover, 1928-34. Author of pamphlet on "Divine Healing."

* SCHLEICHER, FRANK N.—Born July 7, 1880, at Saginaw, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903. Ordained deacon, 1905. Itinerancy, 1905. Withdrawn, 1907. Pastorates: Washtenaw, 1903-04; Eureka, 1904-05; Fowlerville, 1905-07.

SCHMAUS, JOHN—Born, 1839, Berlin, Canada. Died May 15, 1915. Burial at Whittaker. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1873. Ordained deacon, 1874; elder, 1877. Itinerancy, 1873. Pastorates: Grand Traverse, 1873-75; Leelenau, 1875-76; Mason, 1876-77; Bangor, 1877-78; West Unity, 1878-80; Whitehouse, 1883-84; St. Joseph, 1884-86; Marshall, 1886-89; Fremont, 1889-91; Bainbridge, 1891-94; Marcellus and Bristol, 1894-95; Whittaker, 1895-96; Owosso, 1896-98; Whitehouse, 1898-99; Washtenaw, 1899-1902; Maple Hill, 1902-05; Imlay City, 1906-10; Moore, 1910-12; Carleton, 1913-14; Lenox, 1914-16.

* SCHMIDT, W.—Applied for work, 1876. No further information discovered. Never under appointment in the conference.

* SCHMIDT, CARL—Appears as local deacon in 1866. Deposed from ministry in 1879. Never under appointment.

* SCHNEIDER, HENRY—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1877. Ordained deacon, 1879; elder, 1881. Itinerancy, 1878. Withdrawn, 1893, as result of trouble resulting in division. Pastorates: Ypsilanti, 1877-79; Freeland, 1879-82; Bainbridge, 1882-84; Ionia, 1884-87; Grand Rapids, 1887-90; Reed City, 1890-91. Presiding elder: Reed City District, 1891-93.

* SCHNEIDER, JOHN—Born March 17, 1834, Millheim, Pa. Died November 6, 1896. Buried at Hinchman. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1878. Or-

daigned deacon, 1881; elder, 1883. Itinerancy, 1880. Pastorates: Bangor, 1880-81; Maple Grove, 1881-82; Marcellus, 1882-84; Lima, 1884-86; Blissfield, 1886-87; Avery and St. Joseph, 1887-88; Royalton, 1888-90; West Unity, 1890-92; Caledonia, 1893-94.

SCHNEIDER, OSCAR Y.—Born August 17, 1872, near Lake Odessa, Michigan. Recommended by Woodland congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1897. Ordained deacon, 1899; elder, 1903. Itinerancy, 1899. Pastorates: Fisher Station, 1896 (nine months); Cass City, 1897-98; Oregon, 1899-1900; Verona, 1900-01; Lenox, 1901-04; Moore, 1904-06; Imlay City, 1913-14; Hortons Bay, 1919-20; Boyne City, 1920-21; Petoskey, 1921-24; Riverton, 1924-27.

* SCHROEDER, WM.—Received by credentials from Mennonites, 1903. Withdrawn, 1904. Never under appointment.

SCHUKNECHT, JOSEPH J.—Born July 11, 1859, Lockport, N. Y. Died May 5, 1935. Buried at Detroit. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1885. Ordained deacon, 1889; elder, 1891. Itinerancy, 1889. Pastorates: Whitehouse, 1887-88; West Unity, 1888-90; Ionia, 1890-91; South Rockwood, 1892-94; Grand Rapids, 1894-98; Flint, 1898-1900; Detroit (Grand River), 1900-03. Health broke. Invalid for thirty-three years. President of Fire Insurance Society, 1898-1903. Author of "Suffering Job of the Twentieth Century" and "God Knows What It Is All About."

* SCHUKNECHT, HERMAN—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1877. Ordained deacon, 1882; elder, 1884. Itinerancy, 1881. Took credentials in 1885. Returned in 1906. Took credentials again 1911. Pastorates: Sebewaing, 1881-83; Caledonia, 1883-84; Woodland, 1884-85; Detroit (First), 1906-09; Reed City, 1909-11. President of Fire Insurance Society, 1908-11.

SCHURMAN, JOHN F.—Born May 24, 1877, Ishpeming, Michigan. Received by credentials from "World's Faith Missionary Association," 1912. Ordained elder, 1914. Itinerancy, 1913. Pastorates: Owendale, 1911-16; Nashville, 1916-19; Reed City, 1919-22; Niles, 1922-29; Detroit (Kercheval), 1929-32; Pontiac (Baldwin), 1932-35; Ida, 1935-36; Capac, 1936-41; Ann Arbor, 1941-.

* SCHWANDT, NORMAN—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Took credentials to Ohio Conference, 1928. Never under appointment.

SCHWARTZ, FRANKLIN C.—Born May 17, 1885, Sturgis, Michigan. Recommended by Lima class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1905. Withdrawn, 1915. Never under appointment.

SCHWEITZER, FREDERICK G.—Born July 29, 1842, in Wurtemberg, Germany. Died August 6, 1911. Buried at Dayton, Ohio. Recommended by Keeler class, Bainbridge charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1871. Ordained deacon, 1873; elder, 1875. Itinerancy, 1872. Because of broken health took credentials to Indiana Conference in 1881. Pastorates in Michigan: Detroit, 1871-72; Ionia, 1872-75; Lansing, 1875-76, Howell, 1876-77; Owosso, 1877-79; Bay City, 1879-81. Served as presiding elder in Indiana Conference.

SCHWEITZER, J. A.—Born in Puceville, Illinois. Received by Michigan Conference with credentials from Illinois Conference, 1906. Took credentials to Illinois, 1918. Pastorates: Saginaw, 1905-08; Cass City, 1908-13; Bay City, 1913-16; Sebewaing, 1916-17.

- * SCHWILLE, P.—Appears as an elder in 1865. Itinerancy, 1865. Died, 1885. Never under appointment in Michigan.
- * SEARLS, J. C.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1900. Withdrawn, 1901. Never under appointment.
- * SCOTT, E.—Licensed, 1895. Withdrawn, 1901. Pastorates: Marshall and Litchfield, 1895-96; Bristol, 1896-97; Pomona, 1897-98.
- * SCOTT, C. H.—Licensed, 1925. Name stricken, 1930. Never under appointment.
- * SCOTT, G. W.—Credentials from Methodist Episcopal Church, 1923. Local elder. Never under appointment. Took credentials to Methodist Episcopal Church, 1935.
- * SHARP, KENNETH—Licensed, 1921. Withdrawn, 1922. Never under appointment.
- SHELLY, WILLIAM A.—Born June 11, 1854. Died September 18, 1930. Burial at Coleman. Received by credentials from Pittsburg Conference, 1905. Itinerancy, 1910. Pastorates: Leelenau, 1905-07; Riverton, 1907-09; Traverse City, 1909-12; Park, 1912-14; Chesaning, 1914-18; Whittaker, 1918-22; Greenwood, 1922-24; Mt. Pleasant, 1924-26; Coleman, 1926-28; Oregon, 1928-29.
- * SHELLY, PAUL—Licensed, 1923. Name stricken, 1934. Pastorate: Mt. Pleasant, 1924-25.
- SHIREY, WM. L.—Born December, 1856, at Brady, Michigan. Died November 15, 1888. Burial at Vicksburg. Licensed, 1888. Pastorate: Scottville 1888- (seven months).
- SHURLIFF, MYLES E.—Born December 29, 1905, Gananoque, Ont. Recommended by Detroit (Harper) congregation. Licensed, 1925. Took credentials, 1929. Never under appointment.
- * SIMMONS, WILLIAM—Received by credentials, 1878. Died, 1920. Ordained elder, 1879. Itinerancy, 1878. Pastorates: Whitehouse, 1878-80; Lexington, 1880-82; Ridgeway, 1882-84.
- SIMPSON, GEORGE H.—Born March 16, 1872, on Isle of Man, England. Died December 27, 1938. Burial at Sturgis, Michigan. Received by credentials from World's Faith Mission Association, 1914. Ordained deacon, 1914; elder, 1916. Itinerancy, 1915. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1913-14; Lima, 1914-18; Eureka, 1918-20; Hortons Bay, 1920-21; Boyne City, 1921-23; Coleman, 1923-26; Mt. Pleasant, 1926-29; East Gilead, 1929-32.
- SIMPSON, P. L.—Licensed in 1929. Withdrawn, 1933. Never under appointment.
- * SIPPELL, WILLIAM M.—Recommended by Lenox congregation. Licensed, 1902. Ordained deacon, 1904; elder, 1906. Itinerancy, 1904. Took credentials, 1907. Pastorates: Greenwood, 1902-04; Bay City, 1904-06; Detroit (Waterman Ave.), 1906-07.
- SMITH, ARTHUR D.—Born June 5, 1894, at Ada, Michigan. Died, July 5, 1920. Buried at Grand Rapids, Michigan. Recommended by Grand Rapids (Griggs St.) congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1916. Ordained deacon, 1920. Itinerancy, 1920. Pastorates: West Unity, 1918-19; Flint (Kearsley), 1919 to July 1920.

- SMITH, C. F.—Born November 15, 1856. Received by credentials from Wesleyan Church, 1911. Local elder. Pastorates: Chesaning, 1911-12; Nashville, 1912-14; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1914-18; Caro, 1918-23; Riverton, 1923-24; Cass City, 1924-29; Kilmanagh, 1929 to September, 1930; Cass City, September, 1930-32.
- SMITH, H. L. (Schmidt)—Licensed, 1910. Withdrawn, 1911. Pastorate: Manchester, 1910-11.
- * SNYDER, M. W.—Licensed, 1885. Ordained deacon, 1887. Itinerancy, 1887. Withdrawn, 1888. Pastorate: Hart, 1886-88.
- SOLDAN, LOUIS V.—Born October 28, 1858, at Zurich, Ont. Recommended by Winsor class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1883. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1888. Itinerancy, 1886. Pastorates: Grand Rapids (First), 1884-85; Traverse City, 1885-86; Saginaw, 1886-89; Woodland, 1891-93; St. Joseph, 1893-94; Park, 1894-95; Lima, 1895-99; Bainbridge, 1899-1903; Cass City, 1903-05; Moore, 1906-07. Assistant secretary of conference, 1900-06.
- SOLTMAN, JOHN H.—Born September 11, 1891, at Detroit, Michigan. Recommended by Mack Avenue, Detroit. Credentials from Canada Conference, 1915. Ordained deacon, 1917; elder, 1919. Itinerancy, 1917. Credentials to Washington Conference, 1922. Pastorates: Detroit (Kercheval), 1914-15; Pontiac (Calvary), 1915-19.
- * SPADE, HENRY E.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1916. Ordained deacon, 1925. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Lenox, 1916-17. Nashville, 1919-20; Woodland, 1920-22; Park, 1922-Sept. 1924; St. Joseph, Sept. 1924-25, Washtenaw, 1925-30; Jackson (Francis), 1930-33.
- SPATZ (SPOTTS), RUDOLPH—Born May 19, 1821. Died November 15, 1882. Appears as an itinerant in 1867. Ordained deacon, 1868. Pastorates: Blissfield, 1867-70; Capac, 1870-72; Barry, 1872-74; Whitehouse, 1882.
- * SPECK, M.—Charter member, 1864. Ordained elder, 1865. Itinerancy, 1865. Took credentials, 1873. Pastorates: Ionia, 1865-66; Berrien, 1866-67; Bainbridge, 1867-68; Detroit, 1868-70; Flint, 1870-71; Ann Arbor, 1871-73.
- SPITLER, HIRAM—Born, 1844, in Pickerington, Ohio. Died, 1922. Buried at Hart, Michigan. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1882. Itinerancy, 1883. Pastorates: Carleton, 1883-86; Fulton, 1886-87; Eureka, 1887-89; Marshall, 1890-92; Maple Grove, 1892-95; Riverton, 1895-98; Shelby, 1898-1900; Marcellus, 1902-06; Park, 1906-08; Lima, 1908-13; Manchester, 1913-15; Marcellus, 1915-21.
- SPITLER, GEORGE A., B.A.—Born February 26, 1888, at Eureka, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Lima congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1912. Ordained deacon, 1917; elder, 1919. Itinerancy, 1917. Pastorates: Chatsworth, Ill. (student), 1915-16; Buchanan, 1916-17; Detroit (Twelfth St.), 1917-22; Jackson (Greenwood), 1922-26; Battle Creek, 1926-31; Bay City, 1931-33; Cass City, 1933-37; Monroe, 1937-41; Grand Rapids (First), 1941-. Assistant secretary of conference, 1920 to date. Vice-president of Conference Deaconess Society.
- * STAEBLER, SOLOMON—Received by credentials, 1894. Withdrawn. Pastor: Howell, 1895-96.

- STAEBLER, JACOB F.—Born October 17, 1860, Zurich, Ont. Died December 19, 1940. Buried at Birmingham, Mich. Received by credentials from Iowa, 1900. Itinerancy, 1904. Pastor: Linkville, 1902-03; Kilmanagh, 1903-05.
- STAFFELD, CHARLES C.—Born April 5, 1848, in Germany. Died February 9, 1927. Buried at Saginaw. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1875. Ordained deacon, 1877; elder, 1879. Itinerancy, 1876. Pastorates: Maple Hill, 1876-77; Saginaw, 1877-80; St. Joseph Circuit, 1880-82; Portage Prairie, 1882-84; Detroit, 1884-86. Presiding elder: Flint District, 1886-90; Monroe District, 1890-92; Detroit District, 1892-94. Pastor: Ionia, 1894-97. Conference collector, 1897-98. Pastor: Detroit, 1898-99; Flint, 1909-10; Owosso, 1910-13. Delegate to General Conference, 1887, 1891. President Conference Deaconess Society, 1913-16. Vice-president Fire Insurance Society, 1913-18.
- STAFFELD, DANIEL W., M.A., S.T.B.—Received by credentials from New England Conference, 1924. Credentials to New England, 1933. For several years presiding elder in New England Conference. Professor in Evangelical Theological Seminary, Naperville, Ill.
- * STEEBY, ERVIN J.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1900. Withdrawn, 1918. Never under appointment.
- STEEBY, G. ALLEN, B.S.—Born September 13, 1911. Recommended by Leighton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1936. Ordained deacon, 1939; elder, 1941. Itinerancy, 1939. Pastor: Lima, 1937-.
- STEININGER, JAMES S.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1891. Ordained deacon, 1893; elder, 1895. Itinerancy, 1893. Took credentials, 1897. Pastorates: Vicksburg, 1891-92; Marcellus, 1892-93; Nashville, 1893-95; Monroe, 1895-97.
- STEWART, CHAUNCEY Z.—Born June 8, 1834, Mansfield, Ohio. Died February 4, 1910. Buried at West Unity, Ohio. Local probationer in 1884. Never under appointment.
- * STILLSON, JAMES H.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1935. Never under appointment.
- STIPE, LEWIS W.—Born June 1, 1870, near Williamsport, Pa. Died October 6, 1894. Buried at West Unity. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1894. Pastor: Vicksburg, 1894 to October.
- STIPE, WM.—Born December 13, 1846, at Jersey Shore, Pa. Died September 9, 1919. Buried at West Unity, Ohio. Recommended by Emmanuel class, West Unity. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1895. Pastor: Blissfield, 1898-99.
- STORRER, JOHN—Born in Switzerland. Died June 5, 1919. Buried at Owosso. Local probationer, 1865. Withdrawn, 1872. Never under appointment.
- STRAUCH, HENRY T.—Born August 26, 1832, Pottsville, Pa. Died April 29, 1921. Buried at Moore Park, Michigan. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1884. Itinerancy, 1884. Pastorates: Marcellus 1884-86; Fremont, 1886-87; Litchfield, 1887-88; Park, 1888-89; Portage Prairie, 1889-91; Caledonia, 1891-93; Owosso, 1893-96; Washtenaw, 1896-97; Dearborn, 1897-1900; Woodland, 1900-02. Delegate to General Conference, 1883 and 1895. Treasurer of Conference Missionary Society, 1891-1901. Delegate to Board of Missions for several years.

- STRESSMAN, HERBERT—Born July 25, 1890, Howard City, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Maple Hill congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1914. Ordained deacon, 1916; elder, 1919. Itinerancy, 1916. Pastorates: Scottville, 1914-15; Evart, 1915-16; Woodland, 1918-20; Ionia, 1920-23; Grand Rapids (First), 1923-26; Jackson (Greenwood), 1926-30; Elkton, 1930-36; Saginaw, 1936-. President of Conference Sunday School Board, Conference Treasurer General Budget.
- * STRAIT, CHARLES A.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1916. Ordained deacon, 1920. Itinerancy, 1920. Withdrawn, 1922. Pastorates: Boyne City, 1913-18; Leelenau, 1919-20.
- STRIFFLER, ROY J., B.A., B.D., S.T.M.—Born October 23, 1897, Argyle, Michigan. Recommended by Cass City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Pastorates: Wauseon, 1923-24; Ellis Corners, 1925-26.
- * STROH, CHANDLER B.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1903. Ordained deacon, 1905; elder, 1907. Itinerancy, 1905. Pastorates: Coleman, 1903-05; Grand Rapids (First), 1905-10; Detroit (Grand River), 1910-14; Flint (First), 1914-19; Detroit (Mack), 1919-22; Detroit (Grand River), 1922-24. Presiding elder: St. Joseph District, 1924 to October, 1925. Deposed, 1926. President Conference Branch Y. P. A., secretary Conference Fire Insurance Society, vice-president Conference Deaconess Society, assistant secretary of conference, treasurer Conference Church Extension Society, 1921-25. Delegate to General Conference, 1919, 1922.
- * STROHL, D.—Licensed, 1886. Never under appointment.
- STROHMAN, DANIEL—Born October 17, 1830, at Caledonia, Ohio. Died May 6, 1900. Buried at Lindsey, Ohio. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1850. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Took credentials to Ohio Conference, 1866. Pastorates: Presiding elder: Detroit District, 1864-66. Served fields in Michigan before organization of conference. Delegate to several General Conferences.
- * STUART, C. C.—Licensed in 1871. No further information.
- * SUTHERLAND, JOHN—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1878. Withdrawn, 1882. Never under appointment.
- SWEARINGEN, NOBLE J.—Born February 12, 1892. Died March 21, 1926. Burial at Glasgow, Missouri. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Received by credentials from Kansas Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1922; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1922. Pastor: Benton Harbor, 1921-26.
- SWENK, J. A.—Born January 31, 1862. Died October 13, 1912. Burial Dundee, Michigan. Recommended by West Litchfield congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1886; elder, 1890. Itinerancy, 1885. Took credentials, 1899. Pastorates: Bristol, 1884-85; Bangor, 1885-86; Charlesworth, 1886-88; St. Louis, 1888-89; Petoskey, 1889-91; River-ton, 1891-93; West Unity, 1893-96; Whittaker, 1896-98; Whiteford, 1898-99.
- SWENK, J. S.—Recommended by East Geneva class, Coleman. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1899. Withdrawn, 1900. Pastorate: Coleman, 1899-1900.
- SWENK, WILLIAM C.—Born October 18, 1863, Union County, Pa. Died September 28, 1940. Buried Adrian, Michigan. Recommended by West Litchfield class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1888. Ordained deacon, 1890;

elder, 1892. Itinerancy, 1890. Pastorates: North Bradley, 1888-89; Mt. Pleasant, 1889-90; Whiteford, 1890-92; Whitehouse, 1892-95; Caro, 1895-98; Nashville, 1898-99; Howell, 1899-1903; Wauseon, 1903-05; Ida, 1905-08; St. Joseph, 1908-12; Jackson (Greenwood), 1912-15; Sebewaing, 1915-16. Presiding elder: Flint District, 1916-18; St. Joseph District, 1918-24. Pastor: Lansing, 1924-27. Delegate to General Conference, 1911, 1915, 1919, 1922. President of Conference Trustees, 1922-27. President Board of Examiners and Conference Statistical Secretary. Delegate to Board of Missions, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916.

THEDE, HARVEY, B.A., B.D.—Born September 29, 1888, Port Elgin, Ont. Recommended by Detroit (First) church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1912. Ordained deacon, 1920. Itinerancy, 1920. Took credentials to Japan Conference as missionary in 1922. Has served as evangelistic missionary since that time.

THOMAS, BENJAMIN G., B.A., B.D.—Born February 18, 1896, Louisville, Ky. Assistant pastor Mack Avenue and East Detroit, 1921-22. Conference voted to receive him by credentials, 1921. Returned to Indiana, 1922.

THOMAS, CHRISTIAN—Born June 25, 1810, Monroe County, N. Y. Died December 28, 1891. Buried at Afton, Iowa. Appears as local elder of Michigan Conference, 1865. Itinerancy, 1869. Took credentials, 1873. Pastorates: Marshall, 1869-70; Lima, 1870-72; Fremont, 1872-73.

THOMAS, PHILIP W.—Born May 13, 1894, Scottville, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Pontiac (Calvary) congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1924; elder, 1926. Itinerancy, 1924. Credentials to California Conference, 1928. Pastorates: Erie, September, 1920-21; Maple Hill, 1923-25; East Gilead, 1925-27.

* TIMM, JOSEPH—Licensed, 1870. Ordained, 1876. Never under appointment.

TRACY, W. S.—Licensed by Indiana Conference, 1888. Itinerancy, 1893. Received by credentials from Indiana, 1922. Active ministry spent in Indiana and Ohio.

TROMETER, JACOB—Born June 12, 1809, Germany. Died June 27, 1895. Buried at Hart, Michigan. Appears as an itinerant elder, 1865. Served in Michigan prior to organization of conference in 1864. Due to ill health was not active after 1864.

TRUESCHAL, CARL H.—Born January 2, 1899, Capac, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1925. Recommended by Imlay City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1927. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Chesaning, 1920-21; Owosso (assistant), 1921-22; Park, 1925-29; Woodland, 1929-31; Odgen, 1931-32; West Unity, 1933-34; Portage Prairie, 1934-.

UDE, CHRISTIAN—Born April 4, 1835, in Germany. Died October 23, 1898. Buried at Hersey, Michigan. Licensed by Indiana Conference, 1857. Charter member of Michigan Conference, 1864. Pastorates: Marshall, 1865-66; Detroit, 1866-68; Owosso, 1868-70; Bainbridge, 1870-72; Blissfield, 1872-74; Flint, 1874-76; Caledonia, 1876-77; Ionia, 1877-78; St. Joseph Circuit, 1878-80; Caledonia, 1880-83; Capac, 1883-86; Dearborn, 1888-91; Saginaw,

- 1891-93; Washtenaw, 1893-96; Hersey, 1896-97. Treasurer of Sunday School and Tract Union, 1884-92.
- * VAN DEMARK, C.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1890. Took credentials, 1891. Pastorate: Hart, 1890-91.
- * VAN SICKLER, L. J.—Licensed, 1922. Ordained deacon, 1925. Itinerancy, 1925. Deposed, 1926. Pastorates: Evart, 1920-21; Battle Creek, 1921-26.
- * VINCENT, C.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1887. Itinerancy, 1885. Took credentials, 1890. Pastorates: Rives, 1884-86.
- VOELKER, HENRY I.—Born January 29, 1881, Petoskey, Michigan. Recommended by Reed City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1904. Ordained deacon, 1906; elder, 1910. Itinerancy, 1906. Pastorates: Nashville, 1904-07; Buchanan, 1907-09; Marshall, 1909-10; Saginaw, 1910-12; Portage Prairie, 1912-16; Kalamazoo, 1916-20. Presiding elder: Grand Rapids District, 1920-26; Kalamazoo District, 1926-28. Pastor: Detroit (Mack), 1928-32; Cass City, 1932-33; Flint (First), 1933-40; Mack Avenue, 1940-. President of Conference Board of Examiners, treasurer Conference Missionary Society, treasurer Conference, Conference Trustee, 1923-28. Delegate to General Conference, 1922, 1926-1930. Member of Conference Board of Church Extension.
- VOELKER, HENRY—Born October 9, 1848, in Germany. Died March 10, 1937. Buried at Hersey, Michigan. Recommended by Evart congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1878. Ordained deacon, 1880; elder, 1882. Itinerancy, 1879. Pastorates: Traverse City, 1878-80; Petoskey, 1880-82; Lexington, 1882-84; Minden, 1884-85; Cass City, 1885-87; Flint, 1887-88; Washtenaw, 1888-90; Blissfield, 1890-93; Wauseon, 1893-94; Caledonia, 1894-97; Hersey, 1897-1901; Capac, 1901-03; Reed City, 1903-05; Elkton, 1905-08; Saginaw, 1908-10; Chesaning, 1910-11; Woodland, 1914-16; Oregon, 1916-17; Leroy, 1917-21; Leroy, 1923-24. Assistant Secretary Conference, 1907-08.
- VOGEL, WILLIAM F.—Born November 1, 1856, in Germany. Died September 8, 1918. Buried at Owosso, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1884. Ordained deacon, 1888; elder, 1890. Itinerancy, 1886. Pastorates: Whitehouse, 1886-87; Byron, 1887-89; Elkton, 1889-92; Traverse City, 1892-95; Saginaw, 1895-98; Owosso, 1898-1901; Hersey, 1901-03; Capac, 1903-06; Bay City, 1906-09; Elkton, 1909-10; Evart, 1911-12; Imlay City, 1912-13; Oregon, 1913-16; Woodland, 1916-18. Editor of *Evangelical Tidings*, 1898-1918. Secretary of Sunday School and Tract Union, 1907-11.
- WADE, BENJAMIN F.—Born March 6, 1830, Dauphin County, Pa. Died February 11, 1902. Buried at Newton, Kansas. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1867. Ordained deacon, 1870; elder, 1872. Itinerancy, 1868. Took credentials to Kansas Conference, 1900. Pastorates: Fremont, 1868-70; Fulton, 1870-71; Whitehouse, 1871-74; Lima, 1874-75; Park, 1875-76; Lima, 1876-79; Litchfield, 1879-80; Marshall, 1880-81; Cass City, 1883-85; Minden, 1885-87; Lexington, 1887-88; Forestville, 1888-89; Byron, 1890-91; Imlay City, 1891-93; Elkton, 1894-97.
- WAGNER, WILLIAM H.—Born September 14, 1851, at Colon, Michigan. Died October 31, 1933. Burial at Colon. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1880. Ordained deacon, 1883; elder, 1885. Itinerancy, 1881. Pastorates:

- Traverse City, 1881-83; Bangor, 1883-84; Riverton, 1884-86; Lima, 1886-89; Jackson, 1889-91; Fulton, 1891-93; Portage Prairie, 1893-96; Marshall and Litchfield, 1896-1900; Park, 1900-01; Fremont, 1901-03; Dearborn, 1914-15; Capac, 1916-17; Carleton, 1917-18; Ferndale, 1920-22; Oregon, 1922-26; Owendale, 1926-27; Lenox, 1927-29. Secretary of Church Extension Society, 1890-93. Treasurer of Fire Insurance Society, 1891-09. Secretary of Missionary Society, 1893-1906.
- WALES, JAMES—Born March 17, 1842, Sandusky County, Ohio. Died December 30, 1916. Buried at Rochester, Indiana. Licensed by Indiana Conference, 1868. Received by credentials from Indiana Conference, 1906. Pastorates: Niles, 1906-07; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1907-08; Royalton, 1908-11; Marcellus, 1911-13; Lima and Sturgis, 1913-14; Marshall, 1914-15.
- * WALKER, QUINTON—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1879. Withdrawn, 1886. Never under appointment.
- WALMER, CLARENCE W.—Born August 16, 1902, Van Buren County, Michigan. Recommended by West Bangor class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1925. Took credentials to Indiana Conference, 1928. Never under appointment.
- WALTER, F. E.—Born September 28, 1838, in Germany. Died October, 1914. Buried at Capac. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1876. Ordained deacon, 1879; elder, 1886. Itinerancy, 1878. Pastorates: Sanilac, 1876-77; Ridgeway, 1878-80; Burnside, 1882-83; Marlette, 1883-84; Ridgeway, 1885-88; Greenwood, 1888-89; Capac, 1889-92; Moore, 1892-95; Maple Hill, 1895-98; Woodland, 1898-1900; Moore, 1900-04.
- WALTERS, CHESTER—Licensed, 1932. Withdrawn, 1936. Never under appointment.
- WALTON, SEWARD C.—Born May 17, 1913, at Baldwin, Michigan. Recommended by South Maple Grove class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1935. Pastorates: Cloverdale, 1936-40; Maple Hill, 1940-.
- WARRILOW, ARTHUR—Born August 14, 1901, in England. Recommended by Pontiac (Calvary). Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1922. Withdrawn, 1923. Never under appointment.
- * WARRILOW, WM.—Recommended by Pontiac (Calvary) church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Withdrawn, 1926. Pastor: Gladwin, 1921-22.
- WATSON, WILLIAM H.—Born December 8, 1883, at Bridgeport, Michigan. Recommended by Smith Creek class, Gladwin charge. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1907. Ordained deacon, 1909; elder, 1911. Itinerancy, 1909. Pastorates: June, 1906, to April, 1907, serving as assistant on Verona and Gladwin charges; Greenwood, 1907-09; Buchanan, 1909-13; Grand Rapids (First), 1913-18. Presiding elder: Grand Rapids District, 1918-20; Detroit District, 1920-26. Pastor: Detroit (Mack Ave.), 1926-28. District Superintendent: Kalamazoo District, 1928-34; Detroit District, 1934-. President Conference Branch Y. P. A., 1915-17. Secretary Conference Board of Examiners, 1914-18. Member of Conference Sunday School Board and member of Conference Board of Christian Education several years. President Conference Student Aid Society, 1920-29. President Conference Deaconess Society, 1927-. President Conference Trustees, 1927-. Director Forward Movement, 1920-26. Conference Historian, 1926-. Member Board of Directors

Victory Campaign. Chairman Centennial Board, 1930-39. Chairman of Conference Administrative Council, 1939-. Chairman Conference Commission on Evangelism, 1930-35. Delegate to General Conference, 1919, 1922, 1926, 1930, 1934, 1938. Chairman of Delegation, 1919, 1922, 1930, 1934, 1938. Member of Board of Trustees Ebenezer Old People's Home, 1919-22. Member of Haven Hubbard Home Board, 1922-34. Member of Board of Publication, 1922-26. Member of Managing Committee of Western House. Member of Board of Trustees Superannuation Fund, 1926-. Author of History of Michigan Conference.

WEBER, C. C.—Born, 1866, in Germany. Recommended by Bay City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1886. Ordained deacon, 1889; elder, 1891. Itinerancy, 1889. Took credentials, 1895. Pastorates: Saginaw, 1887-90; Grand Rapids, 1890-92; Ionia, 1892-94; Bainbridge, 1894-95.

* WEBER, FREDERICK H.—Born, 1859; died, 1907. Recommended by Bay City congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1896. Ordained deacon, 1899. Itinerancy, 1899. Took credentials, 1902. Pastorates: Moore, 1897-1900;—Lenox, 1900-01.

WEINERT, ARTHUR A., B.A., B.D.—Born May 13, 1893, Preston, Nebraska. Recommended by Preston congregation. Licensed by Kansas Conference, 1916. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1922. Ordained deacon, 1922; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1922. Pastorates: Halfway, 1922-24; Jackson (Francis), 1924-29; Carleton, 1929-32; Ann Arbor, 1932-36; Pontiac (Calvary), 1936-38; Sharon, 1938-. Secretary Conference Student Aid Society.

WEISS, EDWARD—Born August 7, 1837, Germany. Died March 5, 1911. Buried at Reed City. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1867. Ordained deacon, 1869; elder, 1871. Itinerancy, 1867. Pastorates: Genesee, 1867-68; Sebawaing, 1868-70; Tawas City, 1870-71; Flint, 1871-73; Ann Arbor, 1873-74; Washtenaw, 1874-75. Presiding elder: Detroit District, 1875-78; Monroe District, 1878-79. Pastor: Washtenaw, 1880-82; Hersey, 1882-85; Reed City, 1885-86. Presiding elder: Reed City District, 1886-90. Pastor: Saginaw, 1890-91; Hersey, 1891-94; Dearborn, 1894-97; Maple Hill, 1898-1902; Leroy, 1902-03. Delegate to General Conference, 1883, 1887, 1895. Treasurer of Conference Missionary Society and Conference Treasurer.

* WEISBROD, CHRISTIAN—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1868. Itinerancy, 1868. Retired, 1872. Pastorates: Genesee, 1868-69; Owosso, 1869-71; Capac, 1871-72.

WESTFALL, CORWIN B.—Born December 7, 1894. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Lima (Center) class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1917. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1922. Itinerancy, 1920. Pastorates: Fowlerville, 1917-18; Ogden, 1918-20; Detroit (Hamilton Ave.), 1922-25; Grand Rapids (Griggs St.), 1925-31; Battle Creek, 1931-33; Jackson (Greenwood Park), 1933-41; Flint (Kearsley), 1941-. Conference treasurer General Budget, 10 years. Superintendent Young People's Department and treasurer Conference Board of Religious Education, Conference Director of Religious Education, 1934-.

* WHEELER J.—Local probationer in 1884. Surrendered his license. Never under appointment.

WHITE, HARTLEY G.—Born, 1861, at Colon, Michigan. Recommended by Horton Bay class. Licensed as local probationer, 1920. Never under appointment.

- * WHITE, WASHINGTON—Received by credentials from Methodist Protestant Church, 1878. Ordained deacon, 1883. Pastorate: Fremont, 1878-79, 1883-84.
- WIEST, P.—Born March 1, 1812, in Switzerland. Died June 8, 1896. Buried North Amherst, Ohio. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1834. Local elder in Michigan Conference, 1868. Itinerancy, 1869. Pastorates: Lima, 1869-70; St. Joseph Circuit, 1870-71.
- WIEDMAN, C. C.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1920. Withdrawn, 1936. Never under appointment.
- WILKIE, CONRAD A.—Born September 28, 1884, Wayne County, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Waterman Avenue congregation. Licensed, 1907. Ordained deacon, 1909; elder, 1911. Itinerancy, 1909. Pastorates: Manchester, 1907-08; Marshall, 1908-09; Manchester, 1909-10; Howell, 1910-15; Jackson (Greenwood), 1915-20; Portage Prairie, 1920-22; Flint (First), 1922-28. District Superintendent: Bay City District, 1928-36. Pastor: Detroit (Calvary), 1936-. Conference Statistical Secretary, Conference Treasurer, Conference Trustee, Treasurer of Church Extension Society. Delegate to General Conference, 1930, 1934, 1938.
- WILKIE, GERALD G., B.A., B.D.—Born August 26, 1913, at Howell, Michigan. Recommended by Detroit (Calvary) church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1938. Pastorate: Whittaker, 1939-.
- WILLARD, ELISHA—Born September 4, 1863, near Hamilton, Ontario. Died August 9, 1932. Buried at Imlay City, Michigan. Received by credentials, 1913, from Baptist Church. Itinerancy, 1930. Pastorates: Gladwin, 1912-13; Eureka, 1913-14; Horton Bay, 1914-15; Scottville, 1915-16; West Unity, 1916-18; Royalton, 1918-21; Marcellus, 1921-23; Imlay City, 1923-26; Whiteford, 1926-29; Greenwood, 1929-30; Portage Prairie, 1930-32.
- WILLARD, MURRAY H.—Born December 12, 1900, Pavilion, Ill. Graduate Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Scottdale class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1923; elder, 1925. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorates: Traverse City, 1922-24; Ellis Corners, 1924-25; Brown City, 1925-28; (Texas Conference, 1928-29); Ogden, 1929-31; Detroit (Chelsea), 1931-40; East Detroit, 1940-. Secretary Conference Fire Insurance Society, 1930-35.
- WILLOUGHBY, LEON E.—Born April 1, 1900, at Gaylord, Michigan. Recommended by Pontiac (Calvary) church. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1921. Ordained deacon, 1923; elder, 1925. Itinerancy, 1923. Pastorates: Flint (Kearsley), 1920-24; Pontiac (Baldwin), 1924-27; Monroe, 1927-34; Kalamazoo, 1934-37; Bay City, 1937-. Conference Treasurer of General Budget, 1923-33. President Conference Board of Christian Education, 1940-.
- WILSON, CARL B.—Born October 4, 1889, Harlan, Michigan. Recommended by Wexford class, Pomona. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1932. Ordained deacon, 1939. Itinerancy, 1939. Pastorates: Pomona, 1929-32; Leelenau, 1932-34; Coleman, 1934-40; Horton Bay, 1940-.
- WILSON, GORDAN—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1877. Withdrawn, 1878. Never under appointment.
- WILLSON, ROSS, SR.—Received by credentials from Wesleyan Church, 1910. Withdrawn, 1912. Never under appointment.

- WILLSON, ROSS, JR.—Received by credentials from Wesleyan Church, 1910. Withdrawn, 1912. Never under appointment.
- WINTER, AUGUST—Born September 30, 1860, in Germany. Died August 29, 1886. Buried at Manistee, Michigan. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1883. Ordained deacon, 1885. Itinerancy, 1884. Pastorate—Traverse Mission, 1883-84; Frankfort Mission, 1884-85; Manistee, 1885 to August, 1886.
- * WINTER, FERDINAND J.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Graduate Evangelical Theological Seminary. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1922. Itinerancy, 1920. Took credentials to Texas Conference, 1928. Pastorates: Detroit (Hamilton Ave.), 1918-22.
- * WIRTH, C.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1906. Withdrawn, 1909. Never under appointment.
- WOLFE, FRED J.—Born Detroit. Received by credentials from German Methodist Episcopal Church, 1923, as local deacon. Not under appointment in Michigan Conference.
- * WOOD, E. E.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1910. Dismissed, 1911. Served but a brief period.
- WOODWARD, LEON F.—Born September 30, 1890, at Carleton, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Recommended by Carleton congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1920; elder, 1922. Itinerancy, 1920. Pastorates: Detroit (Harper), 1918-25; Marcellus, 1925-28; St. Joseph, 1928-34; Lansing, 1934-39; Grand Rapids (Griggs), 1939-. Publisher of *Michigan Evangelical*. Conference Statistician. Conference Missionary Secretary. Conference Secretary of Stewardship and Tithing.
- WUNDERLICH, N.—Born, 1855, in Germany. Died, 1928. Buried at Forrest Home, Illinois. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1880. Ordained deacon, 1882; elder, 1884. Itinerancy, 1881. Took credentials in 1899. Pastorates: Burnside, 1880-82; Saginaw, 1882-85; Grand Rapids, 1885-87; Cass City, 1887-90; Washtenaw, 1890-93; Saginaw, 1893-95; Detroit (First), 1895-98; Bay City, 1898-99.
- WURTZ, SAMUEL R.—Born January 22, 1895, at Pigeon, Michigan. Recommended by Pigeon congregation. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1918. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1928. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: Wauseon, 1924-26; Evart, 1926-28; Leighton, 1928-32; Nashville, 1932-35; Royalton, 1935-40; Brown City, 1940-.
- * YEARN, FRANK—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1909. Ordained deacon, 1913. Itinerancy, 1913. Withdrawn, 1914. Pastorates: Marshall, 1909-10; Carleton, 1910-13.
- * YOOSCHIDA, KEIJERS—Licensed, 1891. No further information. Never under appointment.
- YOUNG, EDWARD—Born March 5, 1892, at Elkton, Michigan. Graduate of Evangelical Theological Seminary. Licensed by Illinois Conference. Credentials to Michigan Conference, 1924. Ordained deacon, 1925; elder, 1927. Itinerancy, 1925. Pastorates: New Haven, 1924-26; Oregon, 1926-28.

YOUNG, JACOB—Born December 17, 1821, at New Berlin, Pa. Died July 8, 1901. Buried at Portage Prairie. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1867. Ordained deacon, 1872; elder, 1874. Itinerancy, 1870. Pastorates: St. Joseph Circuit, 1870-71; Portage Prairie, 1871-72; Lake Shore, 1872-73; Portage Prairie, 1873-75; Marcellus, 1875-77; Whitehouse, 1877-78; Washtenaw, 1879-80; Springport, 1880-81; Lansing, 1881-82; Blissfield 1882-84; Dearborn, 1884-88; St. Joseph, 1888-89; Marcellus, 1889-92; Lima, 1892-95; Bainbridge, 1895-96; Portage Prairie, 1896-98.

YOUNG, SUMMER—Born September 17, 1886, at Van Wert, Ohio. Recommended by Smith Creek class, Gladwin. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1909. Ordained deacon, 1916; elder, 1921. Itinerancy, 1916. Pastorates: Coleman, 1909; Gladwin, 1914-15; Whitehouse, 1915-21; Carleton, 1921-23; Caro, 1923-26; Detroit (Kercheval Ave.), 1926-29; Niles, 1929-30; River-ton, 1930-31; Brown City, 1931-36; Pigeon, 1936-.

* ZANDER, W. F.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1879. Ordained deacon, 1880; elder, 1882. Itinerancy, 1879. Took credentials, 1884. Pastorates: Petoskey, 1879-80; Saginaw, 1880-81; Howell, 1881-83; Detroit, 1883-84.

ZELLER, FREDERICK—Born July 3, 1819, in Germany. Died September 7, 1902. Buried Mt. Cory, Ohio. Licensed by Ohio Conference, 1858. Received by credentials from Ohio Conference, 1874. Took credentials, 1879. Pastorates: Blissfield, 1874-76; Washtenaw, 1876-79.

* ZEMMER, HENRY H.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1915. Ordained deacon, 1916. Took credentials, 1928. Missionary to Africa for many years. Died about 1932.

ZOLLER, ELLIOTT W.—Born April 27, 1899, at Rodney, Ont. Died March 30, 1935. Buried at Detroit. Recommended by Pontiac (Calvary) class. Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1919. Ordained deacon, 1922; elder, 1924. Itinerancy, 1922. Took credentials, 1924. Pastorate: Vicksburg, 1922-24.

* ZOLLER, JOHN E.—Licensed by Michigan Conference, 1913. Withdrawn, 1917. Pastor: Royalton, 1913-14.

SECTION X

IN MEMORIAM

"That they may rest from their labors, for their works do follow them."
Rev. 14:13.

* L., License; C., Credentials; Ch., Charter Member.

Name	Date and Place of Birth	Date Received and How *	Years of Service in Conference	Date of Death and Place of Burial
Davis, Thos. N.	1841 Ohio	1863 L.	3	1873 East Gilead, Mich.
Beagle, Chris. ....	.....	1865 L.	0	1875 Blissfield, Mich.
Binder, Wm. F.	1845 Germany	1878 L.	5	1883 Cass City, Mich.
Spatz, Rudolph	1821	1867 ..	20	1882 Erie, Mich.
Schwille, Philip .....	.....	1865 C.	0	1885 Howe, Ind.
Alspach, M.	1812 Pennsylvania ..	1864 Ch.	2	1886 Minneapolis, Minn.
Brumm, Peter	1817 France	1875 L.	..	1886 Nashville, Mich.
Keller, Benjamin	1818 Pennsylvania ..	1864 Ch.	0	1886 Wauseon, Ohio
Miller, E. B.	1829 Pennsylvania ..	1867 C.	2	1907 Pawnee Rock, Kan.
Winter, August	1860 Germany	1883 L.	3	1886 Unknown
Kaiser, Jacob	1816 Ohio	1877 L.	0	1887 Eureka, Mich.
Speck, Martin .....	.....	1864 Ch.	3	Unknown
Pontius, J. K.	1826 Ohio	1876 C.	12	1887 Flint, Mich.
Shirey, W. L.	1856 Michigan	1888 L.	1	1888 Vicksburg, Mich.
Rienke, Wm.	Germany	1865 L.	5	.... Kansas
Eaton, L. B. ....	.....	1882 C.	0	1889 Unknown
Frankhauser, Jacob ..	New York	1876 C.	4	1889 Litchfield, Mich.
Roehm, C.	1811 Germany	1864 Ch.	10	1889 Owosso, Mich.
Russell, A.	1830 New York	1873 L.	5	1891 Coldwater, Mich.
Alles, Peter	1829 Germany	1884 C.	3	1892 Canada
Krueger, Carl	1855 Germany	1884 L.	10	1894 Howell, Mich.
Stipe, L. W.	1870 Pennsylvania ..	1894 L.	0	1894 West Unity, Ohio
Trometer, Jacob	1809 Germany	1865 C.	0	1895 Hart, Mich.
Gingrich, Joseph Y. ..	1841 Canada	1874 L.	1	1895 Reed City, Mich.
Parker, Andrew	1873 Pennsylvania ..	1894 C.	0	1895 Unknown
Schneider, John	1834 Pennsylvania ..	1878 L.	13	1896 Hinchman, Mich.
Wunderlich, Nicholas ..	1855 Germany	1880 L.	19	1928 Forrest Home, Ill.
Meek, John	1827 Germany	1864 Ch.	22	1897 Naperville, Ill.
Ude, Christian	1835 Germany	1864 Ch.	30	1898 Hersey, Mich.
Schafer, D. W.	1827 Germany	1872 L.	19	1899 Ida, Mich.
Paulen, Joshua	1825 Ohio	1864 Ch.	15	1899 Kansas
Riegel, Reuben	1818 Pennsylvania ..	1864 Ch.	5	1890 Elkhart, Ind.
Ragatz, Oswald	1833 Switzerland ..	1871 C.	6	1900 Royaltown Hts., Mich.
Rohland, David C.	1820 Pennsylvania ..	1864 Ch.	8	1900 West Unity, Ohio
Hess, E. H. ....	.....	1870 L.	22	Unknown
Nicolai, Andrew	1814 Germany	1864 Ch.	10	1901 Sharon, Mich.
Young, Jacob	1821 Pennsylvania ..	1867 L.	27	1901 Portage Prairie, Mich.
Henne, Stephen	1835 Germany	1864 Ch.	28	1902 Hersey, Mich.
Wade, B. F.	1830 Pennsylvania ..	1867 L.	25	1902 Kansas
Blizzard, M. A.	1817 Ohio	1878 L.	0	1904 Wauseon, Ohio
Brown, Chandler S.	1836 Ohio	1865 L.	23	1904 East Gilead, Mich.
Haug, John M.	1836 Germany	1864 Ch.	26	1904 Indianapolis, Ind.
McQuillen, J. M. ....	.....	1865 C.	0	1905 Wauseon, Ohio
Gamertsfelder, W. D. ....	.....	1886 L.	9	.... Michigan
Romberger, D. P.	1837 Pennsylvania ..	1876 C.	23	1905 Scottville, Mich.
Weber, Frederick H. ....	.....	1887 L.	4	1907 Unknown
Currier, W. R.	1870 Michigan	1903 C.	5	1908 Flint, Mich.
Hibbard, S. B.	1838 Ohio	1878 C.	12	1908 Monroe, Mich.
Ross, C. W.	1854 Germany	1884 L.	20	1908 Canby, Ore.

IN MEMORIAM—*Continued*

* L., License; C., Credentials; Ch., Charter Member.

Name	Date and Place of Birth	Date Received and How *	Years of Service in Conference	Date of Death and Place of Burial
Holsapple, J. E.	1849 Ohio	1889 L.	16	1909 Nashville, Mich.
Arthur, E. B.	1834 New York	1880 C.	4	1910 Scottville, Mich.
Steward, C. Z.	1834 Ohio	1884 L.	0	1910 West Unity, Ohio
Weiss, Edward	1837 Germany	1867 L.	35	1911 Reed City, Mich.
Kaechele, Andrew	1864 Germany	1888 L.	7	1911 Cleveland, Ohio
Schweitzer, Fred.	1842 Germany	1871 L.	10	1911 Dayton, Ohio
Miller, John	1832 Germany	1873 L.	16	1912 Benton Harbor, Mich.
Nicolai, John	1818 Germany	1878 C.	2	1912 Sebawaing, Mich.
Orth, John	1832 Germany	1866 L.	26	1912 Fowlerville, Mich.
Miller, Michael J.	1828 Pennsylvania	1866 C.	6	1912 Iowa
Swenk, J. Albert	1862 Pennsylvania	1884 L.	14	1912 Dundee, Mich.
Borough, Jonas	1818 Virginia	1864 Ch.	14	1913 Traverse City, Mich.
Brumm, Lewis	1835 Alsace-Lorraine	1871 L.	32	1913 Nashville, Mich.
Fuerstenau, H. E.	1865 Michigan	1892 L.	13	1913 Marcellus, Mich.
Doll, George	1823 Germany	1864 Ch.	3	1913 Howe, Ind.
Croft, Sylvester C.	1854 Illinois	1900 L.	8	1914 Mulliken, Mich.
Copley, Samuel	1842 Ohio	1865 C.	28	1914 Los Angeles, Calif.
Mueller, Frederick	1843 Germany	1872 L.	15	1914 Cleveland, Ohio
Walter, F. E.	1838 Germany	1876 L.	24	1914 Capac, Mich.
Berge, William	1838 Canada	1873 L.	35	1915 Benton Harbor, Mich.
Fuchs, John M.	1835 Germany	1864 Ch.	36	1915 Manchester, Mich.
Armstrong, Frank E.	1857 Michigan	1896 C.	16	1916 Moore Park, Mich.
Schmaus, John	1839 Canada	1873 C.	41	1916 Whittaker, Mich.
Wales, James	1842 Ohio	1906 C.	9	1916 Rochester, Ind.
Kuehn, August	1840 Germany	1878 L.	1	1916 Sanduskey, Mich.
Blanchard, Verne	1892 Michigan	1914 L.	2	1917 Petoskey, Mich.
Gackler, C. F.	1877 Michigan	1912 L.	6	1918 Middleville, Mich.
Vogel, Wm. F.	1856 Germany	1884 L.	31	1918 Owosso, Mich.
Koehler, George	1869 Michigan	1892 L.	26	1918 Grand Rapids, Mich.
Bicknell, I. J. ....	.....	1911 C.	..	1919 Unknown
Halmhuber, Adolph	1850 Germany	1886 C.	32	1919 Detroit, Mich.
Keeler, J. H.	1835 Pennsylvania	1870 L.	21	1919 Terry, Miss.
Stipe, Wm.	1846 Pennsylvania	1895 L.	1	1919 West Unity, Ohio
Gurney, C. J. ....	.....	1902 C.	17	1920 Detroit, Mich.
Perone, Edward A.	Michigan	1905 L.	15	1920 Capac, Mich.
Scheurer, Adam A.	1850 New York	1879 L.	40	1920 So. Rockwood, Mich.
Simmons, Wm. ....	.....	1878 C.	6	1920 Unknown
Smith, Arthur D.	1894 Michigan	1916 L.	2	1920 Grand Rapids, Mich.
Johnson, George	1861 New York	1884 L.	24	1920 Cleveland, Ohio
Decker, Henry A.	1852 Michigan	1900 C.	18	1921 Marshall, Mich.
Hettler, George A.	1836 Ohio	1874 L.	40	1921 Moore Park, Mich.
Strauch, Henry T.	1832 Pennsylvania	1884 C.	18	1921 Moore Park, Mich.
Koehler, Frederick	1860 Michigan	1887 L.	30	1922 Manchester, Mich.
Spitler, Hiram	1844 Ohio	1882 C.	36	1922 Hart, Mich.
Knopf, Frederick .....	.....	1878 C.	0	1923 Blissfield, Mich.
Carpenter, W. H.	1841 Michigan	1918 C.	0	1924 Delta, Mich.
Koehler, Wm. A.	1854 Michigan	1880 L.	28	1924 Detroit, Mich.
Renner, Edgar M.	1866 Indiana	1888 L.	29	1924 Vicksburg, Mich.
Klump, Frederick	1855 Germany	1876 L.	33	1926 Cass City, Mich.
Swearingen, N. J.	1892 Missouri	1921 C.	5	1926 Glasgow, Mo.
Butzbach, Albert A.	1873 Michigan	1901 L.	4	1926 Los Angeles, Calif.
Andrews, Charles	1869 Ohio	1922 L.	0	1927 Caledonia, Mich.
Drinkwater, J. ....	.....	1882 C.	6	1927 Blissfield, Mich.
Stafford, Chas. C.	1848 Germany	1875 L.	27	1927 Saginaw, Mich.
Heximer, Gabriel G.	1864 Canada	1889 L.	32	1928 Ontario, Canada
Krupp, S. ....	.....	1905 C.	0	1929 Canada
Scheurer, Peter	1851 New York	1884 L.	36	1929 Manchester, Mich.
Marshall, John J.	1855 Ohio	1885 L.	25	1930 Maple Grove, Mich.
Putnam, Forrest E.	1895 Michigan	1920 L.	8	1930 Jackson, Mich.
Shelly, W. A.	1854 Pennsylvania	1905 C.	24	1930 Coleman, Mich.
Bogen, A. E.	1856 At Sea	1884 L.	12	1930 LaVerne, Iowa
Lyman, Charles W.	1860 New York	1911 C.	20	1931 Pigeon, Mich.

IN MEMORIAM—*Continued*

* L., License; C., Credentials; Ch., Charter Member.

Name	Date and Place of Birth	Date Received and How *	Years of Service in Conference	Date of Death and Place of Burial
Nyce, John M.	1858 Canada	1889 L.	39	1931 Detroit, Mich.
Quint, Harold L. ...	1897	1923 L.	4	1931 Detroit, Mich.
Haller, J. George ...	1858 New York	1882 C.	11	1931 Port Huron, Mich.
Willard, E.	1863 Canada	1913 C.	19	1932 Imlay City, Mich.
Heininger, Samuel ...	1842 Switzerland	1870 L.	10	1932 Elkhart, Ind.
Heininger, Daniel ...	1835 Switzerland	1866 C.	6	1919 Toledo, Ohio
Black, James R.	1867 Scotland	1918 L.	0	1933 Detroit, Mich.
Haddix, Aaron M. ...	1847 Ohio	1888 C.	20	1933 West Unity, Ohio
Kirn, John	1858 Michigan	1905 C.	24	1933 New Haven, Mich.
Riebel, John	1863 Canada	1894 L.	35	1933 Detroit, Mich.
Wagner, Wm. H.	1851 Michigan	1880 L.	35	1933 Colon, Mich.
Steininger, J. S. ....	.....	1891 L.	6	.... Michigan
Frye, Jacob A.	1851 Pennsylvania ...	1874 L.	38	1934 Detroit, Mich.
Frye, Abraham	1849 Pennsylvania ...	1875 L.	28	1934 Dearborn, Mich.
Hommel, Jacob	1857 Germany	1889 L.	24	1934 Saginaw, Mich.
Kirn, Jacob F.	1853 Germany	1894 L.	28	1934 New Haven, Mich.
Zemmer, Henry	Michigan	1915 L.	0	Unknown
Alles, Ezra L.	1854 New York	1887 L.	0	1935 Detroit, Mich.
Bittner, John M. ...	1856 Michigan	1886 L.	23	1935 S. Whiteford, Mich.
Feather, Daniel J. ...	1857 Michigan	1897 C.	30	1935 Kingston, Mich.
Ostroth, Albert	1854 Michigan	1887 L.	43	1935 Nashville, Mich.
Schuknecht, Jos. J. ...	1859 New York	1885 L.	16	1935 Detroit, Mich.
Kaatz, Christian G. ...	1862 Canada	1917 C.	18	1936 Ontario, Canada
Braun, Edward C. ...	1870 Canada	1905 L.	31	1936 Howell, Mich.
Ruth, Dalvin O.	1874 Michigan	1894 L.	29	1937 Moore Park, Mich.
Voelker, Henry	1848 Germany	1878 L.	32	1937 Hersey, Mich.
Loose, J. Wesley	1851 Ohio	1871 L.	19	1937 Three Rivers, Mich.
Salsbury, Simon	1855 Ohio	1892 L.	22	1937 Detroit, Mich.
Bulgrin, Wm. A.	1853 Germany	1889 L.	30	1937 Detroit, Mich.
Kring, Wm. F.	1859 Ohio	1888 L.	37	1937 Adrian, Mich.
Hood, Frank A.	1891 Michigan	1911 L.	25	1937 Moore Park, Mich.
Mohr, Benjamin	1875 Michigan	1899 L.	39	1938 Hersey, Mich.
Fisher, Albert R.	1865 Germany	1891 L.	21	1938 Capae, Mich.
Moeller, Samuel	1873 Canada	1904 L.	32	1938 Lansing, Mich.
Simpson, George H. ...	1872 England	1914 L.	19	1939 Sturgis, Mich.
Mullet, Andrew J. ...	1864 Ohio	1905 C.	0	1939 Sheppard, Mich.
Frye, Noah	1853 Pennsylvania ...	1884 L.	22	1939 Detroit, Mich.
Klopfenstein, Geo. ...	1890 Indiana	1920 L.	19	1939 Elkhart, Ind.
Fairchild, Wm. H. ...	1886 Ohio	1910 L.	30	1940 Snover, Mich.
Pohley, Philip H.	1859 Detroit	1898 L.	23	1940 Howell, Mich.
Swenk, Wm. C.	1863 Pennsylvania ...	1888 L.	39	1940 Adrian, Mich.
Holsapple, Roland N. ...	1876 Indiana	1897 L.	10	1940 Cass City, Mich.
Staebler, Jacob F. ...	1860 Canada	1900 C.	3	1940 Birmingham, Mich.

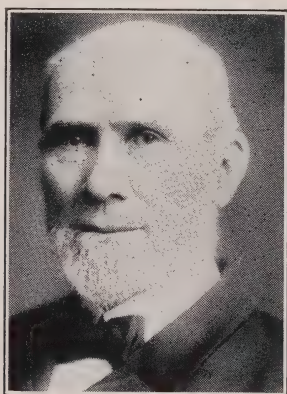
SECTION XI

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE WHO HAVE BEEN HONORED WITH GENERAL POSITIONS IN THE CHURCH

Several members of the Michigan Conference have been honored by the Evangelical Church by election or appointment to important positions in the denomination. It seems fitting that special recognition should be given them in this history. Pictures of these honored leaders are herewith presented with brief sketches of their work in their respective positions. Further information concerning them will be found in the biographical sketches of the ministers.

REV. SAMUEL HEININGER

Born in Switzerland and converted at Mt. Cory, Ohio, Samuel Heininger was licensed by the Michigan Conference in 1870. Evidencing marked ability in the ministry he was elected as the first conference collector in 1873. The years of 1875 to 1879 were spent



as a missionary in Oregon, a position to which he was chosen by the bishops of the denomination. Returning to Michigan because of the death of his wife he served pastorates in Michigan until 1883.

At the General Conference in 1883 he was elected as Corresponding Secretary (Field Secretary) of the General Missionary Society.

In this office he served with distinction for eight years or until 1891. During this period he stood high in the Councils of the Church. From 1892 until his death in 1932 he was a member of the Indiana Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Three sons, John W., Charles S., and Alfred D., have served with distinction in the ministry. A grandson, Dr. Harold R. Heininger, is the honored president of the Evangelical Theological Seminary at Naperville, Illinois.

Those who knew Samuel Heininger will remember him as a man of dauntless courage, of strong convictions, of unquestioned integrity and of fine devotion to the cause of Christ.

REV. GEORGE JOHNSON

George Johnson was born in New York City. His conversion occurred at Leighton, Michigan, in 1879. The Michigan Conference granted him license as a minister in 1884. Serving pastorates in the Michigan Conference until 1896 he was appointed to the office of



treasurer of North Central College and Union Biblical Institute (now Evangelical Theological Seminary). The efficiency with which he served in this position caused the General Conference in 1907 to elect him to the office of Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the General Missionary Society. Very ably he served in this office until the time of his death in February, 1920. From 1911 to 1920 he also served as treasurer of the Superannuation Fund.

He was elected as a delegate to the General Conference in 1907. As an alternate or in an ex-officio position he sat in the General Conferences of 1903, 1911 and 1915. A gifted preacher and an able

executive George Johnson occupied a position of unusual influence among the leaders of the denomination. His death at the age of 59 seemed untimely.

REV. GEORGE J. KIRN

Born and reared near Henderson, Michigan, Dr. George J. Kirn was converted and united with the New Haven church at the early age of 13. Educated in the rural schools near Henderson, Owosso high school, North Central College and Illinois Wesleyan University, Dr. Kirn holds the degrees of B.S., M.S., M.A., Ph.D., and D.D.



Licensed by the Michigan Conference in 1886 he served in the pastorate until 1898. Elected to the office of presiding elder in 1898 he served until 1904, when he resigned to accept a position as professor in the department of philosophy at North Central College. He was head of the department of philosophy and dean of the college for many years prior to his retirement in 1940.

He is the author of "Religion a Rational Demand" and "Ideal Aspects of Psychology." He has contributed extensively to the Church press. He was elected three times as a delegate to the General Conference, twice serving as chairman of the delegation. A profound scholar, Dr. Kirn has given the Church splendid service as a leader and educator.

DR. DANIEL W. STAFFELD

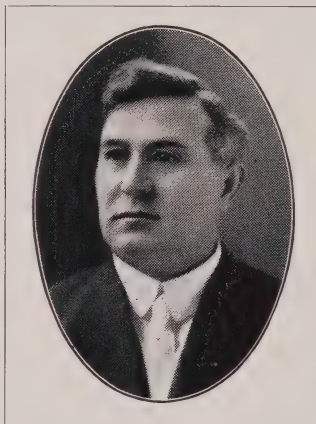
Rev. D. W. Staffeld, is the son of Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Staffeld. He is a graduate of the Ionia High School, North Central College and

Boston University. He holds the degrees of M.A. and S.T.B. Though a product of the Michigan Conference he has spent the years of his ministry outside of the conference.

He spent several years as a Professor of Religious Education in the Evangelical Theological Seminary. During that time he was a member of the Michigan Conference. We are glad to include him among Michigan's honored sons.

REV. FRANKLIN C. BERGER

Franklin C. Berger was born near Lima, Indiana, and early in life was conscious of a call to the ministry. His conversion occurred while he was a student at North Central College. He continued his school work until 1885, when he was licensed for the ministry by the Michigan Conference. He served in the pastorate of the conference from 1885 to 1901, when he was elected as presiding elder, serving for seven years in this office.



In 1907, the General Conference elected him as the first general secretary of the Young People's Alliance and Sunday Schools of the denomination. In this office he served ably for twelve years. Since 1919 he has been a member of the Indiana Conference.

He is the author of "The Young People's Alliance Manual" and numerous leaflets. Five times he was a delegate to General Conference. He is a forceful, dynamic preacher and has enjoyed unusual success as a pastor-evangelist. He attended World Sunday School conventions at Jerusalem and Zurich, Switzerland. He was privileged to serve for more than half a century in the active work of the ministry.

DR. EDWIN G. FRYE

Reared in an Evangelical parsonage, son of Rev. J. A. Frye, who was for 60 years a minister in the Michigan Conference, Edwin G. Frye has a rich Evangelical heritage. Licensed by the Michigan Conference in 1895, he served for 19 years in the active ministry of the conference, the last year as a presiding elder. In 1915 he was appointed as assistant editor of the *Evangelical-Messenger*. Four years later he was elected as editor, a position which he has held since that time. Having served for more than 23 years as editor he



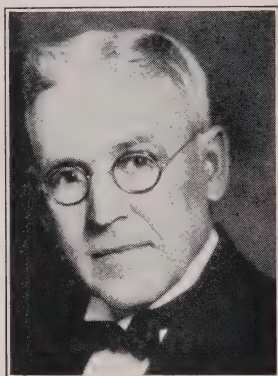
has established a record as an incumbent in that office. Including the four years as assistant he has served for more than a quarter of a century in the editorial offices of the *Messenger*.

He holds the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Western Union College and the degree of Litt.D. from Albright College. He is author of "Breakfast With the Risen Lord" and "What Remains." Four times he has been a delegate to the General Conference and at three other conferences has attended in an ex-officio relation. He has served on a number of important commissions. Dr. Frye must be listed among the influential leaders of the denomination.

DR. JOHN R. NIERGARTH

John R. Niergarth was born in Canada. During his childhood he came with his parents to Michigan. Before entering the ministry he was a "miller." Licensed by the Washington Conference he soon transferred to the Michigan Conference. In the Michigan Conference he served fifteen years as a pastor and ten as a presiding elder. In 1920 he was appointed to the office of treasurer of the Superannuation Fund. In 1934 he was elected as general secretary of the "Fund."

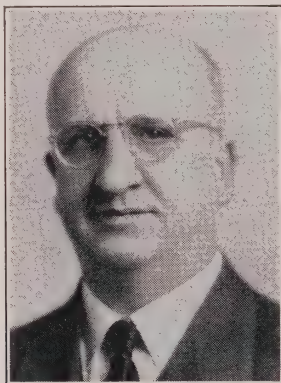
He retired from active service in 1938, having given a total of 18 years of leadership to the Superannuation Fund.



He attended North Central College and Evangelical Seminary and holds the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the Evangelical Theological Seminary. He was delegate to the General Conference five times and served as chairman of the delegation in 1911. He has served on important boards and commissions of the Church. He remains an honored member of the Michigan Conference.

DR. ELMER D. RIEBEL

Elmer D. Riebel is the son of a minister, his father being the Rev. John Riebel of the Michigan Conference. Converted at the age of 14,



he was licensed for the ministry by the Michigan Conference in 1912. He entered the active work of the ministry in 1917 and served as a

pastor in the conference until 1928, when he was appointed as an instructor in the Evangelical Theological Seminary at Naperville, Illinois, a position which he still holds. In 1941 he was appointed treasurer of the seminary. He was a delegate to the General Conference in 1926.

He is a graduate of North Central College and Evangelical Theological Seminary and took post-graduate work at the Universities of Michigan and Chicago. He holds the degrees of A.B., B.D., M.A., and Ph.D. He has served on important boards of the Church. The Michigan Conference is happy to give him a place among those upon whom the Church has seen fit to bestow high honors.

DR. HERDIS L. DEABLER

Among the most recent of the ministers of the Michigan Conference to be appointed to a teaching position in an Evangelical College is Dr. H. L. Deabler. Born in Howell, Michigan, the son of Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Deabler, he is one of the parsonage children who has reached a position of distinction.



He is a graduate of Reed City High School, North Central College, Evangelical Theological Seminary and Boston School of Theology. He holds the degrees of B.A., S.T.B., and Ph.D. He holds the position of personnel secretary and instructor in psychology at North Central College.

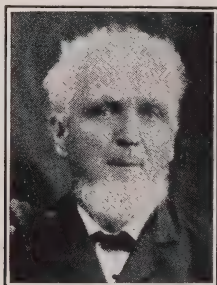
SECTION XII

OUR MISSIONARIES

It is fitting that we recognize the contribution that the Michigan Conference has made to the foreign mission field. We include in the list some who went to the mission field from other areas of the Church, but who became identified with the Evangelical Church in Michigan. Some of those listed have served under mission boards other than that of the Evangelical Church.

DR. JOHN NICOLAI

Dr. John Nicolai went to Germany as a missionary in November, 1851. At that time he was a member of the Ohio Conference. The Michigan Conference had not yet been organized. After laboring in Germany with marked success he returned to America. He entered

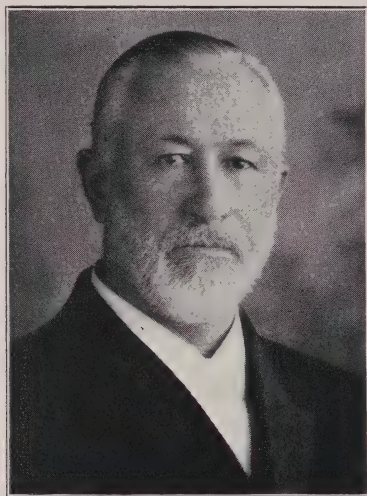


the Michigan Conference with credentials from Ohio in 1878. He served as pastor at Sebewaing from 1878 to 1881. Due to a serious throat affliction he was compelled to give up the ministry. He studied medicine and continued as a practicing physician until the time of his death. He was born in Germany in 1818 and died in Sebewaing, March 24, 1912. He was licensed for the ministry by the Ohio Conference in 1841.

REV. ADOLPH HALMHUBER

Rev. Adolph Halmhuber was born in Germany in 1850. In 1876 he went to Japan as one of the first three Evangelical missionaries to the Sunrise Kingdom. For slightly more than three years he served

effectively as a missionary. Failing health compelled his return to his homeland. In 1886 he came to the Michigan Conference with credentials from Germany. He served efficiently as a pastor in the Michigan Conference for many years. (See Biographical sketch.)



His last year of service in the conference was given as City Missionary in Detroit. He was a man of fine integrity and devotion and was honored by the Michigan Conference with important offices on numerous occasions. Two sons are prominent ministers in the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, respectively. Father Halmhuber died in April, 1919, and was buried in Detroit.

MISS ELSIE KNAPP

Miss Elsie Knapp, a member of our Ida congregation, went to China as a missionary under the Methodist Episcopal Church. After having served for many years as a teacher in the mission schools she returned to the homeland and is now a resident at Ida, Michigan.

REV. AND MRS. STANLEY P. KIRN

Rev. and Mrs. S. P. Kirn served the Evangelical Church in China during the years of 1922 to 1926. Due to a break in Mrs. Kirn's health they were compelled to return to the homeland. Though for several years they hoped to be able to return to China the health

condition did not make it possible. Since returning to America Brother Kirn has served in the pastorate of the Michigan Conference. (See Biographical sketch.)



The son of an Evangelical minister Brother Kirn was born at Henderson, Michigan, May 11, 1898. His college and seminary work were taken at Naperville. He was licensed by the Michigan Conference for the ministry in 1920. Mrs. Kirn, a native of Wisconsin, is a minister's daughter. Michigan is glad to claim her, also by adoption. The Kirns are now serving the Cass City congregation.

REV. AND MRS. GEORGE C. LOCKWOOD

George C. Lockwood was born in Allegan County, Michigan, in 1895. Later he moved into St. Joseph County and became a member of the West Mendon church. Mrs. Lockwood is a native of Wisconsin.

Brother Lockwood was licensed for the ministry by the Michigan Conference in 1921. He and Mrs. Lockwood served as missionaries to the Marshall Islands during the years of 1928 to 1932. They had many interesting experiences. (See Biographical sketch.)

MISS LYDIA KOEBBE

Miss Lydia Koebbe was reared near Manchester, Michigan, and was for many years a member of our Sharon congregation. In 1923 she went to China as a missionary. She served very ably until 1927, when, due to Chinese antagonism toward foreigners, she was com-

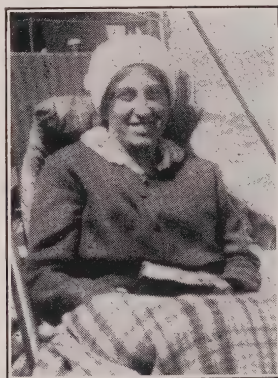
pelled, with many other missionaries, to return to America. Shortly before her return to the homeland she had the thrilling experience of being held prisoner by the bandits for several days. She was finally



released unharmed, though great concern for her safety was felt throughout the church during the days that she was held captive. She now holds a position as librarian in Stambaugh, a town in the upper peninsula.

MISS HANNAH MCKINSTRY

Miss Hannah McKinstry, reared in the Hersey community and for many years a member of the Hersey church, served as a mission-



ary in Africa for many years. While not under the Evangelical Board we count her among the missionaries of the Evangelical Church and rejoice in the service she rendered.

REV. AND MRS. CHARLES FOSTER

Among those who have gone out from the Evangelical Church to serve the mission field under other boards we list Rev. and Mrs.



Left to Right: Rhoda, Robert, Rev. Charles S. Foster, Mrs. Foster, Harold and Herbert.

Charles Foster, who have served in Africa under the South African General Mission Board for more than 20 years. Brother Foster was converted in our Mack Avenue church, Detroit, and for some time held his membership there.

DR. AND MRS. F. C. KRUMLING

Dr. and Mrs. Frederick C. Krumling went to China as medical missionaries in 1906. Under the doctor's direction and supervision



one of our hospitals in China was constructed. He served with the Cantonese army, as a physician, during periods of revolution. He was

decorated by the Chinese government thirteen times and received a decoration from General Ko. After twelve years of valuable service to our China Mission Dr. and Mrs. Krumling were compelled to return to America due to the impairment of Mrs. Krumling's health.

Dr. Krumling was born at Mason, Michigan, in 1876, and took his medical work in the University of Michigan. He was licensed for the ministry by the Michigan Conference in 1906. His ordination as deacon and elder came in 1908 and 1911 respectively. Since returning to America he has practiced medicine in Blissfield and Detroit.

REV. AND MRS. HARVEY THEDE

Since 1920 Rev. and Mrs. Harvey Thede have served the Evangelical Church as missionaries in Japan. Brother Thede was born in Elgin, Ontario, in 1888. However, his childhood and youth were largely spent in Detroit. Mrs. Thede was born and reared in Minnesota. Michigan is glad to claim her by adoption, or it might be more



appropriate to say by marriage. In Japan Reverend and Mrs. Thede have rendered exceptionally fine service, having held important official positions. They have three children, Gweneth, Gaius and Paul.

Brother Thede was licensed by the Michigan Conference for the ministry in 1912. He completed his college and seminary work in 1920 and received his ordination as deacon in that year. In 1922 he took credentials to the Japan Conference, of which he has been a member since that date.

REV. AND MRS. HENRY ZEMMER

Rev. and Mrs. Zemmer were reared near Columbiaville and held their membership in the Oregon congregation of the Michigan Conference. Brother Zemmer took his training in our schools at Naper-



ville, was licensed by the Michigan Conference as a minister in 1916 and served in Africa for many years as a missionary under the African Inland Mission. Suffering from broken health due to climatic conditions they were compelled to return to America. He passed to his reward in 1932.

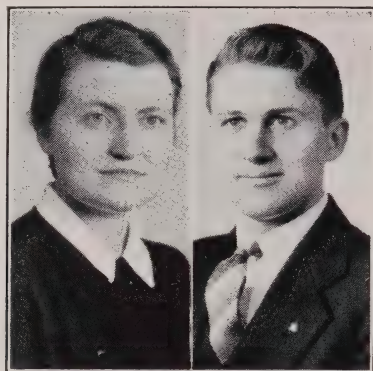
MR. WILLIAM HETZ

Mr. William Hetz, a resident of Columbiaville, Michigan, and a member of the Oregon class, spent a number of years in missionary service under the Africa Inland Mission. We have very limited information about his work.

REV. AND MRS. GEORGE A. BELKNAP

George A. Belknap was born at Horton Bay, Michigan. He is a graduate of the Chicago Evangelistic Institute, from which institution he holds the degree of B.S.L. He was licensed for the ministry by the Michigan Conference in 1938. At East Detroit he served one year as assistant pastor and one year as pastor. Mrs. Belknap is a native of Ohio and also a graduate of Chicago Evangelistic Institute. Under appointment by the International Holiness Association Mission Board, Rev. and Mrs. Belknap began their journey to Africa on

the ill-fated steamer *Zam Zam*. The vessel was sunk by German raiders in mid-Atlantic. After many hardships Rev. and Mrs. Bel-



knap returned to America where they await an opportunity to go to their appointed field—Kayero via Muyebe, Usumbura, Urundi, Belgian Mandate Territory, Africa.

REV. AND MRS. GEORGE LYONS

Rev. and Mrs. George Lyons are serving as missionaries in Mulanga Kitui, Kenya, East Africa. Brother Lyons was reared in



the Mack Avenue church and is a member of the Michigan Conference, having been licensed in 1928. Mrs. Lyons was reared near Tekonsha, Michigan.

REV. AND MRS. A. H. BUTZBACH

Rev. Albert H. Butzbach was one of the first three missionaries sent to China by the Evangelical Association. Mrs. Butzbach, a native of Illinois, joined him shortly after he began his work in China. Brother Butzbach was born in Bainbridge, Michigan, January 2, 1873. Licensed by the Michigan Conference in 1901, he went to China in



1903. In 1917 he was compelled to return to the homeland, the victim of tuberculosis. He recovered sufficiently to return to China in 1920. However the rigors of the climate and the strain of his work broke his health again and he returned in 1924, taking up residence in California, where he died September 10, 1926. He rendered outstanding service as a missionary and was officially recognized by the Chinese Government for meritorious work done during the famine at Shenchow. (See Biographical sketch.)

SECTION XIII

MINISTERS' SALARIES

For Jacob Albright and his colleagues salary was a secondary consideration. There was no church organization, no rules and no precedents to follow. Here were men with an experience to share and a message to tell. They must share and tell even if they had to pay their own expenses while doing so.

Whatever support they may have received from the people to whom they preached was probably in the nature of gifts of money and donations of food. Contributions of either were probably limited. Albright supported himself principally from his tile business and his colleagues evidently earned a substantial portion of their livelihood from manual labor of some sort. This is not to speak in support of an unsalaried or under-salaried ministry. It is merely setting forth conditions as they existed in the beginnings of the Evangelical Church.

The ministers spent much of their time among the people so that food, shelter and horse feed were largely provided for them. Other needs were few and relatively inexpensive. Many of the early ministers owned farms from which much of their living came. It must also be remembered that the church, in that period of beginning and low salaries, lost many of her able leaders because of low salaries, since they were compelled to abandon the ministry in order to support their families.

SALARIES SOCIALIZED

For many years, up to about 1850, the general practice seems to have been for men in the various ministerial standings (probationers, deacons and elders) to share equally from the total salary income in a conference. If a man received from his field more than the average salary for his group he contributed all above the average to the salary fund. If his income was less than average he received from the fund, all sharing equally.

For the years 1847 to 1851, inclusive, the total annual salary for the unmarried man in the Ohio Conference was as follows: 1847, \$56.52; 1848, \$47.10; 1849, \$53.43; 1850, \$46.32; 1851, \$74.00. (Figures from the Ohio Conference are given because Michigan was being served from Ohio.) It will be noted that the average for the five years would be only slightly above \$1.00 per week. For 1863 the

figure for unmarried ministers is given as from \$43.00 to \$125.00. The reason for the variation is not quite clear.

In studying the conference records the historian frequently found references to a "credit of months" in relation to the minister's salary. Sometimes there was a credit of 24 months, occasionally a credit of as much as 36 months, during a year. An interpretation of the "months" system is given by the late Rev. D. S. Oakes, a historian in the Indiana Conference, as quoted in volume one of the Indiana Conference History. We quote his explanation:

"That all preachers received equal salaries, according to months, regulated as follows: Unmarried men, and those not ordained deacons, if married, were allowed twelve months, while ordained men counted twelve months additional for their wives, and three months for each child under fourteen years old. All had to report their months, and the amount of quarterage received, to the Finance Committee. This committee then ascertained the aggregate number of months, as also the total quarterage paid, from which an average for the month was ascertained and each man received pro rata according to the number of months to which he was entitled. It followed that those who received above the average had to disburse the excess to help make up the deficit of those who fell below. Each had also to report his itemized traveling expenses, and if the committee deemed any item not just, it was reported to the conference. After these expenses were granted as reasonable, each man's was deducted from his quarterage receipts before the dividend was struck."

This arrangement was evidently in practice throughout the denomination in those early years. Available evidence indicates that the plan was in vogue in the Michigan Conference.

RISING STANDARDS

With the first session of the Michigan Conference, in 1865, action was taken granting increases in salaries as follows: City missionaries, 20% (above previous standard); circuit preachers, 10%; presiding elders, 25%. For a number of years after its organization the conference followed the practice of annually using any surplus in the conference treasury toward liquidating deficits in the salaries of the ministers.

At the session in 1866, the following very interesting action was taken:

"When ministers are traveling on their fields or within the conference territory and are under necessity of paying for meals, the following rules shall apply:

(a) For presiding elders the conference shall bear 25% of the cost of the cheapest meals and the cheapest means of travel. (No T-bone steak please; pullmans also verboten.)

- (b) For city missionaries 25% of 'tisch kosten' (meals).
- (c) For country missionaries 15% of meals and travel.
- (d) For circuit preacher 15% of meals and *reasonable* traveling expenses."

This evidently means that ministers were permitted to present an itemized statement of expense to be considered in the equalization of salaries.

We discussed this action with Rev. Samuel Heininger whose ministry began in 1870 but he was unable to throw further light on the matter. How long the practice continued is uncertain.

As the work was extended and congregations grew stronger, the salary standards were raised. In 1872 the following salary standard was adopted as a minimum:

Unmarried minister, first two years	\$150.00
Married minister, first two years	200.00
Unmarried minister, traveled two years	300.00
Married minister, after two years	500.00
Presiding elders	500.00

Support for the presiding elders to come from Quarterly Conference collections.

In 1877 the average salary for all ministers in the conference was reported at \$392.82.

Action on the salary standard was again taken in 1878, but the only change from the 1872 standard was to increase the salary of married probationers to \$250.00 for the first two years of their service and to provide that presiding elders should receive traveling expenses in addition to the \$500.00 salary. The average salary for that year, not including presiding elders, was \$381.00.

Again in 1886 action was taken as follows:

- (1) The salary of an elder or presiding elder shall not be less than \$500.00 and dwelling.
- (2) Presiding elders shall be allowed claims for traveling expenses.
- (3) The salary of a deacon shall not be less than \$350.00.
- (4) The salary of a preacher on trial shall not be less than \$200.00.

A period of sixteen years elapses before we discover another action on ministers' salaries. In 1902 we have the following:

Probationers	\$300.00
Deacons	400.00 and rent
Elders, first two years	500.00 and rent
Elders, after traveling two years,	600.00 and rent not to exceed \$100.00
Presiding elders	750.00 and rent not to exceed 100.00

The conference took action again in 1906 but made no change in the salary schedule except to remove the limit of \$100.00 on rent.

In 1907 the conference took action approving the schedule adopted in 1906. The matter received attention in 1908 with a further increase, the probationers, deacons, and elders all being advanced \$100.00 for each grouping, over the 1902 schedule. The salary of the presiding elder was increased to \$1,000.00 which included traveling expenses and rent.

THE LAYMEN SPEAK

Laymen sat as members of the conference for the first time in 1909. Due to their initiative and the increased cost of living, the salary standards moved upwards more rapidly during the next eleven years.

1912

Upon recommendation of the laymen, the conference approved the following schedule:

Probationers who are college graduates ...	\$550.00
Deacons	600.00
Elders, first two years	700.00 and rent
Elders, after two years	800.00 and rent
Presiding elders	1,100.00 and \$200.00 traveling expense.

1917

Again the laymen recommended an action which the conference approved as follows:

Minimum salary for city pastor	\$1,000.00
Presiding elders	1,000.00 plus an allowance of \$30.00 per month for rent and \$200.00 traveling expense.

1920

At the General Conference in 1919, the laymen took a very strong position for the increase of salary standards for ministers. The General Conference schedule (largely dictated by laymen), was adopted by the Michigan Conference at the 1920 session and was as follows:

Presiding elders, exclusive of traveling expenses and rent	\$1,600.00
Itinerant elders, exclusive of rent	1,300.00
Itinerant deacons, exclusive of rent	1,000.00
Probationers, exclusive of rent	900.00

It should be noted that the cost of living had increased so greatly and with automobiles used largely for transportation, the increase scarcely kept pace with the demands made upon the minister. A

few churches in the conference had already reached the standard set at that time.

In 1923 the salaries of the presiding elders were increased to \$1,700.00 with rent and \$200.00 allowed for traveling expenses.

In 1926 the conference territory was re-districted, the number of districts being reduced to three, with increased territory in each district. To compensate for the increase in travel and responsibility, the salary of the presiding elder was increased to \$2,150.00 and \$250 for traveling expense.

The salary of the presiding elder was further increased to \$2,500.00 in 1928, this amount including traveling expense.

GENERAL INCREASES

While no action was taken by the conference, increasing the pastor's salary standard, between 1920 and 1932, there were very marked increases made in most of the churches of the conference. By 1928 at least six churches of the conference were paying \$2,000.00 or more, the high point being \$2,600.00. Five others were paying between \$1,800.00 and \$2,000.00. Only about a dozen fields were paying less than \$1,000.00 cash salary.

1932

In 1932, due to the depression, a further action was taken, the last to date on salary standards. Pastors' salaries were set as follows:

Probationers	\$900.00
Deacons	1,100.00
Elders	1,300.00

In each instance rent was to be provided extra.

The salaries of the district superintendents were reduced to \$2,000.00 which included traveling expenses. The present standard for superintendents is \$2,200.00 which includes traveling expense.

SECTION XIV

DEBTS, COLLECTORS AND SPECIAL CAMPAIGNS

Three times in the history of the conference collectors were appointed to solicit for conference debts.

1873

In 1873 the conference debt had reached the disturbing figure of \$4,057.00. Practically the entire debt resulted from building projects at St. Joseph, Flint (First), Hersey and Ridgeway. Appointing a collector seemed to offer the one solution to the problem. Rev. Samuel Heininger, a young man of promise, was chosen and within a year had covered the full amount in cash and pledges.

1897

Due to the urgent needs of the mission fields, the committee on appropriations allowed themselves to make appropriations in excess of the missionary income. This practice, continued over a period of years, resulted in a mounting missionary debt, which by 1897 had reached nearly \$6,000.00. Again a collector was appointed in the person of Rev. C. C. Staffeld. Within a year he had solicited in cash and pledges \$7,416.72, and again the conference had its financial house in order.

1910

From the date of its organization in 1878, heavy demands were made upon the Church Extension Society. Sacrificially the ministers had made their contributions and heroically they had sought to collect the necessary funds to meet the ever-expanding need. But they had not been wholly successful. By 1910 the debt had grown to a figure well above \$15,000.00. (The exact figure is not available.)

Again the conference appointed a collector. On this occasion the lot fell on Rev. Jacob A. Frye, a man well qualified by his 20 years' experience as a presiding elder. Vigorously he set to work and at the conference session in 1911 reported \$18,708.09 raised in cash and pledges. Once more the Church Extension Society could start with a clean slate.

THE VICTORY CAMPAIGN

Following the close of the first World War in 1918 industry carried along at high tide for a period of two years. Work was plentiful, wages were high, prices for farm produce were good, real estate was

booming and most everyone was fairly prosperous. It was the period when *some* young men are reported to have paid as much as \$14.00 each for silk shirts. "Silk shirt Harrys" some one called them.

Church leaders recognized the period as an opportunity to launch expansion programs. Almost every denomination launched a campaign with spiritual and financial objectives. Caught up by the enthusiasm of the hour, the Michigan Conference through the Conference Commission on Evangelism launched a campaign known as the Victory Campaign, at the conference session in 1919.

Spiritual objectives dealing with prayer life, family altars, conversions, recruits for the ministry, deaconess work and various aspects of Christian service were set up. Missionary and stewardship objectives, including the raising of conference budgets, enrolling tithers and soliciting a Victory Fund of \$75,000.00, to be paid by 1920, were also outlined.

Rev. J. R. Niergarth was appointed campaign superintendent and instructed to work under the direction of an Advisory Board consisting of the presiding elders and the Revs. C. B. Stroh, G. Knechtel, and Benjamin Mohr and the laymen Dr. G. I. Schellig, Joshua Braun, H. B. Helle and W. A. Womer.

The campaign was promoted vigorously and definite results were in evidence. The \$54,002.83 received on the financial objectives gave substantial aid to the conference in its expansion program. Because the Forward Movement, launched by the General Conference in the fall of 1919, was given the full support of the conference, it is difficult to tabulate the total good accruing from the Victory Campaign objectives since beginning with the spring of 1920 the Victory Campaign was overshadowed by the Forward Movement.

In the fall of 1919, Rev. G. Knechtel was chosen superintendent of the campaign to succeed J. R. Niergarth who was chosen by the denominational headquarters as a leader in the Forward Movement.

THE FORWARD MOVEMENT

In October of 1919, the General Conference launched the Forward Movement. Forward-looking spiritual and financial goals were adopted for the entire denomination. In turn these were broken down and re-allocated to the various conferences. The financial goals seemed like staggering amounts and a good percentage of the leaders of the various conferences were frankly skeptical about the ability of their conferences to raise their quotas.

Michigan's quota of conversions for the five-year period was 8,000, an average of 1,600 per year. The financial quota assigned was

\$179,400.00 for the five years or \$35,880.00 annually. Other important spiritual goals were assigned, the figures being less specific.

W. H. Watson was chosen as conference director of the movement. Able leaders were chosen for the various departments and promotional work begun. After much hesitation, Mr. Joshua Braun accepted the position of finance chairman. He gave very able and important leadership in directing the finance campaign.

Against the quota of 8,000 conversions, 7,901 were reported for the five years, 1920 to 1924 inclusive, only 99 short of the goal. Against the goal of \$179,400.00 a little more than \$183,000.00 was pledged. About \$150,000.00 of this amount was actually paid into the treasury.

A large number of young people offered themselves for special service during the period. The fact that the conference licensed 58 men for the ministry during the five years of 1920 to 1924 inclusive, speaks eloquently at this point. Several others were received by credentials from other religious groups. During this period the graph also records marked net gains in church membership. On the whole there can be no doubt that very definite good was realized for the Kingdom from the Forward Movement.

THE INTER-CHURCH WORLD MOVEMENT

At about the same time that the Forward Movement was launched by our denomination, an interdenominational program known as the "Inter-Church World Movement" was launched. An elaborate program involving community surveys, interdenominational coöperation in social and missionary programs and a financial canvass of the "Friendly Citizen," the unchurched neighbor who, it was believed by some, would generously support the church if approached.

The results of the canvass revealed to the satisfaction of all that this "Friendly Citizen" was a hypothetical personality who did not really exist, at least as a generous contributor to the Church. The canvass was a decided failure. As a result of this experience the "Movement" collapsed, financially embarrassed. During the brief period of its existence, the Michigan Conference gave friendly coöperation.

SECTION XV

CONFERENCE AUXILIARIES

A

THE CONFERENCE MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The Conference Missionary Society was the very first auxiliary of the Michigan Conference. Rev. William Yost, who, at the request of Bishop Joseph Long, presided at the formal organization of the Michigan Conference, reports that after the conference organization had been effected he proceeded to organize a Conference Missionary Society and a Sunday School and Tract Union. The date of organization* can be set at May 5 or 6, 1864. The place was Carey, Ohio. The names of the first staff of officers are not available.

The Conference Missionary Society was, and is, regarded not only as an auxiliary of the conference, but also of the General (or Parent) Missionary Society. The Conference Society sends delegates to the meetings of the General Society and reports on its activities to the same body.

THE PURPOSE

The purpose of the Conference Missionary Society is to raise funds within the conference territory, which in turn are disbursed to assist mission churches in the conference in the payment of salaries and rent of the missionaries. From its beginning, this important auxiliary has rendered most valuable service to the conference and the Kingdom. Without the aid of this auxiliary many of our missions could not have been established and others would have found their work much more difficult. It has been one agency by which the salaries of the ministers of the conference could be measurably socialized.

LOCAL MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

During the earlier years of conference history the organization of local missionary societies, auxiliary to the Conference Society, was encouraged. At one time many such societies existed. Their function was largely educational and financial. They kept before the local church the needs of the mission field and gathered funds for the support of conference missions. None are in existence at the present time.

* Rev. J. M. Fuchs in his history, reports that the Conference Missionary Society was organized in 1865 and that the ministers of the conference contributed \$71.00 to the missionary treasury. We have been unable to reconcile the conflict in date of organization.

OFFICERS AND APPROPRIATIONS

The first available report on officers of the society appears in 1884 in the first printed journal of the conference. The following appear as officers at that time:

President	Rev. Samuel Copley
Vice-president	Rev. John M. Fuchs
Secretary	Rev. J. George Haller
Treasurer	Rev. Edward Weiss

The total appropriation for that year (1884), to the twenty-one missions of the conference, amounted to \$3,900.00. The largest amount appropriated to any one field that year was \$350.00 to Detroit. For 1898 the appropriation totaled \$5,640.00. In that year the total appropriated to the Detroit District was the lowest for the four districts, being but \$900.00 as against \$1,900.00 for the Grand Rapids District and \$1,665.00 for the Flint District. The City of Detroit had not yet opened up as a great mission field.

The high point for missionary appropriation for any one year was in 1923 with a total appropriation for salary and rent of \$19,548.00. Of this amount, \$6,373.00 went to the St. Joseph District, \$6,035.00 to the Detroit District, \$3,800.00 to the Grand Rapids District and \$3,400.00 to the Flint District. The mission field of the conference had shifted from the rural fields of the north to the growing cities in the southern part of the state.

MISSION DEBTS

The need for aid to mission churches often outran the receipts of the missionary society. Under the pressure of the need, the appropriations often exceeded available funds. Borrowing was resorted to in the hope that future years would overcome the shortage. Usually it worked in reverse, deficits increased and finally special efforts had to be made to pay off accumulated debts.

The first such emergency occurred in 1897 when the missionary debt reached the alarming total of \$6,000.00. Rev. C. C. Staffeld was appointed collector and the debt was wiped out. In 1919 the debt had again grown to a point where it caused great concern for the conference leaders. To meet this and other financial needs the Victory Campaign was launched. With receipts from this source and a substantial legacy the debt was again eliminated.

During the "twenties," the deficit again mounted rapidly and alarmingly. The arrival of the depression intensified the problem. Efforts toward debt reduction, launched in 1930, have continued during the past decade. The society still carries a substantial mission debt, an unfortunate handicap to need for expansion.

THE PRESENT OFFICERS

President	Rev. Daniel F. Binder
Vice-president	Rev. Frederick L. Pohly
Secretary	Rev. Otto G. Knechtel
Treasurer	Rev. Lloyd S. Scheifele

B

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY

This society was organized in 1878 to meet the need of a rapidly expanding church building program in the conference. In the ten years between 1865 and 1875, there had been an increase of 37 church edifices and 16 parsonages, an average of more than five new buildings each year. Most of them had been erected in rural and small town communities at relatively low cost.

However experience in establishing churches in St. Joseph and Flint brought to the Conference the realization that entering the cities would be much more expensive than erecting churches in the rural areas.

To assist congregations in new building projects a "Church Building Society" was organized. The plan was to loan available funds to congregations engaged in building projects. The amount loaned to any single project was limited to a maximum of a few hundred dollars, to be paid back without interest.

The first officers were:

President	Rev. John M. Haug
Secretary	Rev. Samuel Copley
Treasurer	Rev. Edward Weiss

The first funds of the society were secured by requiring each of the 44 pastors of the conference to pay \$10.00 each to the Church Building treasury during the year (1878). One-half of the amount was to be paid in by June 15th. The money might be collected from the field or paid by the pastor out of his own funds. Thus it will be seen that the ministers provided the first funds for this important auxiliary.

So great were the growing demands upon the society that two years later (1880), the conference ordered each pastor to collect 15 cents per member from his field for this fund and each presiding elder to pay \$20.00 into the treasury. In 1881 the annual levy for the Church Building Society was 10 cents per member and \$10.00 from each presiding elder. This appears to have been the rule for more than 30 years. That the rule had teeth is evident from the fact that in 1884 out of twelve delinquents the conference excused five and ordered the remaining seven to pay amounts ranging from 90 cents up to \$6.90. The names of those penalized appear in the records.

In 1891 the name of the society was changed to Church Extension Society.

In 1906 the society found itself holding notes from local churches amounting to \$4,625.00, of which \$2,755.00 was past due. Action was taken that all future loans would be made on condition that 5% of the principal would be repaid annually.

In 1908 the conference ruled that no obligation of a local church would be cancelled. A new rule requiring payment of 10% annually on principal of all loans to local churches was passed. The rules were again amended in 1921.

At an undetermined date the society resorted to the practice of borrowing money in order to assist local churches in building projects, the money being re-loaned to the churches. For some of the city missions the amount of aid given was large. One of the largest amounts up to that date was \$3,365.00 of debt assumed for the Mack Avenue Mission in 1907. The amount seemed staggering to the conference at the time. Undoubtedly it has been a wise investment. Since that date much larger amounts have been loaned to some mission projects.

By 1910 the debt of the society had reached proportions that caused the conference to appoint Rev. J. A. Frye as collector. During the year he secured \$18,708.09 in cash and pledges, covering the debt fully.

Marked expansion during the twenty years of 1910 to 1930 resulted in much greater debt burdens, greatly complicated by the depression during the years of 1929 to 1935. At the present time (1940) the society is struggling with a heavy debt that greatly limits its usefulness. The debt is being reduced and the hope is that the Society may again return to a place of greatly increased usefulness to the churches.

The present officers are:

President	Rev. John W. Hill
Vice-president	Rev. Conrad A. Wilkie
Secretary	Rev. Clyde C. Gibson
Treasurer	Rev. Murray H. Willard

C

THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE BRANCH WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

In the providence of God it was the sainted Mrs. E. M. Spreng who rallied the women of the Evangelical Church for the organization of a Woman's Missionary Society. As early as the year of 1880, local organizations were formed at South Chicago and at Lindsey, Ohio. The first society of record in Michigan was organized at Ionia in 1884.

Apparently the second society to be organized in Michigan was organized at Portage Prairie in 1894. Other societies were organized in the state and in 1900, Mrs. Spreng appointed Mrs. P. H. Pohly as the first official organizer in Michigan. With commendable zeal Mrs. Pohly had succeeded, by 1902, in organizing a number of societies.

During the early part of that year she issued a call to the eleven societies within the bounds of the conference territory to send delegates to a meeting to be held at Beulah Park, located on the south side of Lake Chemung, near Howell, August 9, 1902. On that date twelve women from five auxiliaries met under the trees in this park. Earnestly they prayed that God might help them in this cause so dear to their hearts and, as they believed, so vital to his Kingdom. Mrs. E. M. Spreng was present and assisted in effecting the organization of the Michigan Conference Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society.

Plans for aggressive promotion were made. A goal of 100% increase for the ensuing year was set. The following were elected as the first staff of officers: Pres., P. H. Pohly; vice-pres., Mrs. E. J. Rough; cor. sec., Mrs. E. J. Cole; rec. sec., Mrs. D. L. Young; treas., Mrs. F. Klump; supt. of Mission Bands, Mrs. Delia Scott.

The first annual convention was held at Beulah Park in the summer of 1903 in connection with the annual convention of the Michigan Conference Branch Young People's Alliance (now Evangelical League of Christian Endeavor). Thirteen auxiliaries were reported with 219 members. A total of \$419.65 had been raised during the year. There were 145 members of the Mission Bands and the Bands had raised \$70.07 during the year. And so the work was fully launched.

The progress of the Conference Branch has been steady and encouraging over the years. Reports for 1939 give a total of 69 auxiliaries with 1,872 members; forty-three Missionary Circles with 981 members; fifty-one Mission Bands with 1,365 members; and thirty-six Little Herald Rolls with 768 enrolled. From the Branch W. M. S. auxiliaries, the Circles, the Mission Bands and the Little Heralds, \$5,983.00 was contributed to the General Missionary treasury and \$1,699.00 to the Conference Missionary treasury during 1939. During the years of its existence, the Conference Branch W. M. S. has contributed many thousands of dollars to the cause of missions.

For about twelve years the Branch sponsored Battle Creek as their home mission project. Through prayer and generous contributions, the Branch did much to bring Battle Creek to self-support as one of the finest churches in the conference. It will ever stand as a fine memorial to the efforts of the Evangelical women in Michigan.

One of the most important phases of the work of the Woman's Missionary Society is the promotion of missionary instruction and stewardship education.

Mrs. P. H. Pohly who served as the original organizer and who was elected as the first president of the Branch had the honor of serving in the presidency for a total of ten years. Her able leadership was invaluable during the early years of its history. The following have served as president for the years indicated. Mrs. P. H. Pohly, 1902-07 and 1916-19; Mrs. Carrie Cauffman, 1908-10; Mrs. F. Klump, 1911-15; Mrs. L. J. Liesemer, 1920-28; Mrs. E. S. Faust, 1929-38; Mrs. D. F. Binder, 1939-.

The present officers are (1940): President, Mrs. D. F. Binder; first vice-president, Mrs. L. E. Chamberlain; second vice-president, Mrs. S. P. Kirn; third vice-president, Mrs. G. H. Kellerman; recording secretary, Mrs. L. Stewart; corresponding secretary, Mrs. F. W. Kirn; treasurer, Mrs. R. J. Nichols; Secretary of Young People, Mrs. W. P. Peck; Secretary of Mission Band, Mrs. H. D. Oeschger; Secretary of Little Heralds, Mrs. S. G. Braun.

D

DEACONESS SOCIETY OF THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

The Deaconess Society of the Michigan Conference was organized April 13, 1912, at Owosso, Michigan, by order of the conference. The organization was effected largely through the interest and influence of Rev. C. C. Staffeld who for several years prior to the organization had taken a very keen interest in the Deaconess work.

Having visited Germany and observed the extensive and important work done by our Evangelical deaconesses in that country and having been connected with the General Deaconess Society of the Evangelical Church he was convinced that the Deaconess Movement offered great possibilities for service to the Church and the Kingdom. Prior to the organization of the Conference Deaconess Society he had given generously in supporting a deaconess who labored among our Detroit churches under direction of the General Society. In his efforts to secure the organization of a Conference Society, Brother Staffeld was enthusiastically supported by the pastors of our Detroit churches.

The first officers of the society were:

President	Rev. C. C. Staffeld
Vice-president	Rev. C. B. Stroh
Treasurer	Rev. J. Riebel
Secretary	Rev. J. A. Halmhuber

The object of the society as set forth by the Constitution is:

"To appoint and maintain deaconesses within the bounds of the

conference, and to gather funds for this Conference Branch and the General Deaconess Society."

The membership shall consist of:

"All ministers in active service in the conference, all licensed deaconesses serving within the bounds of the conference, and all persons paying an annual fee of \$1.00.

"Those paying \$50.00 become life members.

"Those paying \$100.00 become honorary life members."

Provision was also made in the constitution for the organization of a local Deaconess Society in every local congregation. This provision was made mandatory, and organizers were appointed but the response was not favorable and the action was not carried out.

Plans were also made for the purchase of a Conference Deaconess Home. This also failed to materialize.

In 1915, Brother Staffeld offered to give \$1,000.00 toward an endowment fund provided the conference would raise \$4,000.00. Conference accepted the offer and by 1922 completed the task of securing the \$4,000.00. Brother Staffeld fulfilled his part of the agreement and in 1922 the permanent fund was fully established. At the annual meeting of the Deaconess Society in 1922, Brother Staffeld announced that he would make an annual contribution of \$500.00 to the permanent fund as long as he lived. This further increased the permanent fund. In addition to these contributions, Brother Staffeld paid the salaries of several deaconesses and parish workers for periods of service in local churches.

The salary of the first deaconesses to work in Michigan churches was \$10.00 per month, plus room and board. Regularly trained deaconesses also received an allowance for clothing and were assured of medical care and a home when compelled by age or ill health to retire.

The first deaconess to labor in Michigan was Miss Mary Schondelmaier, a Michigan girl, who served in the Detroit churches. Others who have served in Michigan churches are: Deaconesses, Miss Ernestine Dietzel, Miss Ella Yoder, Miss Ida Kersten, Miss Clara Austin, Miss Carrie Klump, Miss Mary Ledebuhr, Miss Edna Cole, Miss Alice Alpers, and Miss Katherine Faist; those who have served as parish workers, Mrs. Parish, Miss Ruth Riebel, Mrs. D. C. Ostroth, Miss Sophia Adams, Miss M. A. Marty, Miss Alice Klump, Mrs. Susie Crone, Miss Sophia Luder, Miss Emma Schultz, Miss Alice Rehm, Miss Clara Scheurman, and Miss Esther Artz.

Those devoted workers have rendered very excellent service in a large number of our churches.

The following have served as president of the society: C. C. Staf-

feld, 1912-16; J. A. Halmhuber, 1916-20; H. W. Link, 1920-21; C. C. Gibson, 1921-27; W. H. Watson, 1927 to present.

The present officers are: President, W. H. Watson; first vice-president, G. A. Spittler; second vice-president, Mrs. Alice Klump; third vice-president, R. J. Lautner; secretary, W. D. Hayes; treasurer, A. L. Bingaman.

At present there is \$5,618.99 in the permanent fund.

E

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY

When the Michigan Conference held its first session in 1865, it had but 16 church buildings and 4 parsonages with a combined estimated value of \$15,800.00. Due to this relatively small amount of property, the problem of fire protection gave the conference but little concern. The rapid progress of the next 20 years, with the number of churches and parsonages multiplied several times, brought a growing sense of need for insurance protection.

Toward the close of the conference session of 1888 a committee consisting of C. C. Staffeld, John M. Fuchs, E. Weiss, J. G. Haller and E. H. Hess was appointed to "draft plans for the organizing of a Michigan Conference Fire Insurance Company and report at the next annual session." The committee met in Owosso, November 20, 1888, drafted plans for organization and issued a call through the church papers asking for the assistance of churches and pastors of the conference. It was decided that no insurance would be in effect until the total insurance written equalled \$20,000.00.

The conference at the session of 1889 approved the action of the committee, set the maximum liability on any one policy at \$3,000.00 and elected officers as follows:

President	C. C. Staffeld
Vice-president	S. Copley
Secretary	J. Geo. Haller
Treasurer	J. A. Frye

The first board of directors consisted of E. Weiss, G. A. Hettler, J. M. Fuchs, A. A. Scheurer, L. Brumm, J. M. Haug, and W. H. Wagner.

From this humble beginning, the Mutual Fire Insurance Society of the Michigan Conference, has grown to take its place among the mutual companies of the state as a strong and sturdy member. Providing fire protection at low cost, it has rendered a great service to the churches and ministers of the conference. Through many vicissitudes of fortune, in spite of much criticism, and over the fears of many of its friends it has persisted on its mission of mutual helpfulness. Its

methods and modes of operation have of necessity changed but, its basic purpose, to give our constituency adequate protection at the lowest possible cost, has been carried steadily forward. A half century of helpful service has adequately demonstrated the strength of the mutual idea which is at the heart of our society.

At the time of its organization, policies were written for five years at a premium charge of \$1.00 for the policy and 15 cents per hundred for the insurance taken. With but very small losses the society was able to carry on for 20 years, until 1909, on the entrance fees alone, supplemented by special assessments in 1904 and 1907; a very remarkable record, indeed.

In 1909, the society was incorporated under the Insurance Laws of the State and an annual assessment of 10 cents per hundred added to the entrance fee of \$1.00 for the policy and 15 cents per hundred on the amount of insurance taken. At the same time the liability was increased to \$10,000.00 for any one loss. For a period of 25 years this arrangement was continued. However, during that time, due to several rather heavy losses, it was necessary to levy ten special assessments, the climax coming in 1934 when a \$10,000.00 loss occurred.

Because experience revealed that the heavy losses were occurring in the poorly protected rural and small town communities, and because of competition from the rates of other companies in the well-protected cities, it was deemed wise to revise the constitution, classify the insurance rates and reduce the maximum risk from \$10,000.00 to \$5,000.00. This was done at the annual meeting of the society in 1935. As a result of this action the society is on a much better financial basis and confidence in its stability has greatly increased.

The following table indicated the trends during this crisis period:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Policies</i>	<i>Insurance in Force</i>
1918	281	\$457,000.00
1923	308	766,000.00
1927	313	1,004,900.00
1930	326	1,053,700.00
1935	233	602,496.00
1936	230	551,590.00
1937	233	554,887.00
1938	235	570,610.00
1939	242	578,767.00

The service rendered by this society can best be seen from the following items relative to fire losses paid during the 21 years, 1919-39.

Total number of fire losses in this period	70
Total amount of losses paid	\$39,465.91
Average yearly loss payment	1,879.33
Average number losses incurred yearly	3½
Average amount of each fire loss	573.79

In only two years of this period have we been free from fire losses, viz., 1930, 1934.* Lowest loss in any single year, \$2.65 in 1936. Highest loss, \$10,000.00 in 1934.

The present (as of 1939) rates are as follows: Pastor's household goods, 12 cents per hundred; parsonage and church properties at 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 cents per hundred depending upon construction and location; campmeeting properties, 25 and 30 cents per hundred.

Since 1936 but two special assessments have been levied, each equal to 25% of the annual premium.

The last annual report shows present assets of \$3,797.36.

The society now operates upon the advance premium basis as required by the insurance laws of Michigan.

The society has always been administered by our own conference members, with but one paid officer, namely the secretary, who receives a very modest remuneration annually. It is significant that while it requires from 50% to 60% of the premiums received by the other insurance companies of the state to care for operation, (not including payment of losses), our society operates at an annual average of about 12½% of the premiums received. In other words, 87½% of the money paid in premiums by our insured, goes to pay for fire losses. It is not consumed in salaries and office expense.

The 1939 report of the State Commissioner of Insurance, commended the society for its careful and conservative management and expressed appreciation for the coöperation given by its officers.

The present officers are: President, H. W. Link; vice-president, C. C. Gibson; secretary, S. P. Kirn, and treasurer, G. A. Spitler.

F

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE STUDENT AID SOCIETY

In the face of advancing standards of education among the rank and file of the American people and the increasing demands made upon the minister of the Gospel, the leaders of the Michigan Conference realized the need for a better trained ministry. The conviction found concrete expression in the organization of the Student Aid Society of the Michigan Conference in 1912. Rev. J. R. Niergarth, one of the presiding elders of the conference, was largely instrumental in effecting the organization. The purpose of the society as set forth by the constitution—"Shall be the establishment and maintenance of a fund out of which men from the Michigan Conference may receive aid in securing an adequate intellectual and spiritual training for the office of the Christian ministry to which they feel divinely called."

* A loss occurring in December, 1934, appears in the 1935 business.

The constitution provided that aid should be given to approved applicants on the basis of loans in amounts not to exceed \$150.00 annually, and not to exceed an aggregate of more than \$800.00 to any one student. The loans were to be without interest, and to be repaid at the rate of at least 10 per cent of the total loan annually after the student had completed his school work until the whole is paid. From the small nucleus of \$365.25 reported at the end of the first year (Conference 1913), the fund has grown steadily. In 1925 it passed the \$10,000.00 mark and May 15, 1939, stood at \$13,081.12. Of this amount, \$5,937.05 is loaned to students; \$6,638.03 is loaned on interest bearing notes, and \$506.04 is in the form of cash.

During the twenty-seven years of its history, the society has assisted 56 students with loans amounting to \$16,036.00. The total cost of operation for the period of its history is \$347.15, most of which has gone for printed matter, postage, and the cost of printing annual reports in the *Conference Journal*. None of the officers have received compensation. The society has rendered a fine service.

The officers elected at the time of organization were: President, J. R. Niergarth; vice-president, J. A. Schweitzer; secretary, D. C. Ostroth, and treasurer, C. C. Staffeld. The present officers are: President, D. R. Kring; vice-president, W. Koteskey; secretary, A. A. Weinert, and treasurer, C. A. Parker.

G

THE MICHIGAN EVANGELICAL

In 1903 Rev. F. Klump launched a conference periodical known as the *Michigan Conference Bulletin* of which he was the editor and publisher. It was a monthly paper, devoted to the publication of conference news. Devotional material was also included.

The name of the publication was changed to *Evangelical Tidings* in 1905 and Rev. W. F. Vogel made the publisher. Rev. Klump remained as editor. While the periodical was devoted to conference news it was a private enterprise, for which the conference accepted no responsibility.

After a few years Rev. W. F. Vogel became both the editor and publisher, continuing the paper as a private enterprise, devoted to conference interests. Particularly during the war period, beginning with 1914, the cost of publication increased and it appears certain that Brother Vogel was compelled to subsidize the project from personal funds. He carried on until 1918 when the conference took over the paper, formed the Evangelical Publishing Company, appointed an editor, a publisher and made provision for the continuation of the paper. The periodical was renamed, *The Michigan Evangelical*.

Again difficulty was experienced in financing the project and about 1923, the paper was discontinued. For several years the conference and its auxiliaries were dependent upon letters and mimeographed materials for promotional work. At the conference session in 1939, the conference approved the reestablishment of a conference publication. It is subsidized by conference auxiliaries. Rev. H. I. Voelker is the present editor. The periodical appears as *The Michigan Evangelical*. The need for such a promotional medium is keenly felt by conference leaders.

SECTION XVI

THE CONFERENCE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The interests of Christian Education within the bounds of the conference, is under the supervision of a Conference Board of Christian Education. The work of the Sunday schools, Evangelical Leagues of Christian Endeavor and the Brotherhoods is included in this field.

The personnel of the Board as of January 1, 1942, is: Rev. L. E. Willoughby, president; Rev. C. A. Parker, vice-president; Rev. C. B. Westfall, secretary-treasurer; W. H. Watson, E. S. Faust, Wm. Koteskey, D. C. Ostroth, E. L. Steeby, George Reamer and Mrs. Orpha Williams. Rev. C. B. Westfall is also conference director.

We shall now trace the history of each of these organizations.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

When the Michigan Conference was organized in 1865, the Sunday school occupied a rather subordinate position. Preaching places were regarded as of primary importance. Due partly to a lack of appreciation for the value of Sunday schools and partly to the fact that in many communities there were not a sufficient number of competent leaders to conduct a Sunday school, the circuit riders gave their major efforts to seeking out preaching places.

The ministry of Christian education in those early years was carried on largely through catechetical instruction, family altars, Christian literature and the pulpit ministry of the church.

The conference report for 1865 reveals that there were 14 Sunday schools with 110 officers and teachers, 373 scholars, and 727 volumes in the Sunday-school libraries. Interest in Sunday-school work seemed to be increasing rapidly, for two years later the conference reported 31 schools, with an enrollment of 248 officers and teachers, 1,074 scholars and 2,005 books in the Sunday-school libraries.

The report for 1872 gave 54 schools, 1,952 scholars and 3,600 books in the libraries. During this period, the ratio of books in the libraries remained at almost two books for every scholar enrolled in the school. It was not until 1892 that the Sunday-school enrollment exceeded the church membership of the conference. That year the Sunday-school enrollment was reported at 7,392 and the Church membership at 6,993. Since that time the Sunday-school enrollment has always exceeded the Church membership of the conference. We have not

been able to ascertain when and where the first Sunday school was organized within the bounds of the conference.

LANGUAGE PROBLEMS

Since the Evangelical Church had its beginning among the German people, its early ministry was almost exclusively in the German language. This undoubtedly retarded the development of the early Sunday schools. Since English *only* was taught in the lower grades of the public schools, it became necessary for the church to teach the children the language being used in the worship services.

In the lower grades of the Sunday schools, the entire effort of the teacher was often devoted to the teaching of the German language. Often almost no attention was given to the teaching of the Scriptures. It is significant that in 1888 the conference passed the following resolutions, "Religious instruction is an indispensable necessity to hearty growth and solidity in the Christian life. Catechetical instruction should be more energetically pursued in our conference. We are glad for the encouraging progress in the Sunday-school work. We regret that in many cases infant classes in the Sunday schools *have no Bible instruction and are only taught to read*. We most earnestly request all our Sunday schools to use their influence for the speedy removal of this custom."

LIBRARIES

The Sunday-school library figured prominently in the early history of the Sunday school. During some years the increase in volumes in the library greatly exceeded the increase in enrollment. Many schools had fine libraries. In the year of 1897 South Rockwood reported 420 volumes in their library.

Public libraries were scarce and in the rural sections practically unknown. The Sunday-school library was a worthy attempt on the part of the church to meet the intellectual needs of its constituency. It was one of those areas where the church was a long way ahead of the state in ministering to the needs of those under its watch care. As public libraries have increased, Sunday-school libraries have decreased and where still in existence are limited largely to worker's libraries.

UNION SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Many of our Michigan Sunday schools began as Union Sunday schools. Unchurched communities desiring some semblance of religious worship often organized Union Sunday schools. Not infrequently these schools were manned by officers who made no profession of religious experience and no pretense to living the Christian life.

Occasionally the Lord's Prayer was the only prayer offered in the Sunday-school session, since no one could pray spontaneously in public. In many instances, Evangelical ministers contacted communities where Union schools existed, established preaching places and later organized denominational schools. In a few cases Union schools were organized in Evangelical churches, evidently in an attempt to secure the coöperation of the entire Protestant contingent in the community. The transition from Union to denominational schools was not always accomplished amicably.

PROMOTIONAL WORK

Early in the history of the Michigan Conference, efforts were made to promote the Sunday school as an important agency in Christian Education. Beginning at an early date, the conference annually passed strong resolutions concerning the promotion of Sunday schools.

In 1873, the conference ordered, for the first time, the holding of District Sunday-School Conventions. The first such convention of which we have record was held near Ida, Michigan (probably the South Raisenville church), beginning October 30, 1873. It represented the Adrian district and appears to have begun on Thursday, running through Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Rev. L. Scheurer-man, presiding elder, was elected as president. His district duties called him from the convention on Friday and Rev. J. H. Keeler was elected as chairman in his stead. The program consisted of addresses and essays. The discussions were reported as, "animated, spiritual and conducted in a spirit of brotherly love and kindness."

During the session, several seasons of prayer were held for Sunday-school superintendents, teachers and officers of the district. "The power of God was warmly felt by all in the house" during these prayer periods. Sunday was reported as "a glorious day on account of the presence of God in our midst." Regret was expressed that so few superintendents and delegates were present.

From that time, conventions were held annually, usually as district Sunday-school conventions, held jointly with district ministerial conventions. Denominational State Sunday-school conventions came at a much later date.

ADMINISTRATION

The management of the early Sunday schools were largely in the hands of the pastor. As late as 1906, the discipline of the church provided that, "The management of the Sunday school shall be entrusted to a superintendent who shall be elected annually—by a majority vote of the members present, *with the approval of the preacher-in-charge.*" This gave the preacher-in-charge, the power of veto in

the election. In the formation of new Sunday schools, the Discipline provided that "the preacher-in-charge shall appoint the officers and teachers according to his best judgment." Also, "The preacher shall meet the officers and teachers of the school once each week for a thorough discussion of the lesson for the following week with them."

Naturally the conference followed denominational leadership in Sunday-school organization and administration. As changes were made in the Discipline by the General Conference, they were put into practice by the Conference Sunday-school leaders. In harmony with General Conference provision the first Conference Sunday-school Board in the Michigan Conference was appointed in April, 1916, with the following personnel:

Detroit District—Rev. C. C. Gibson, Dr. G. I. Schellig, J. E. Miller

Flint District—Rev. C. B. Stroh, J. W. Scheurer, N. F. Reamer.

Grand Rapids District—Rev. W. H. Watson, Theo. Hutt, H. R. Niergarth.

St. Joseph District—Rev. H. I. Voelker, L. B. Rough, Mr. Linebeck.

This Board served for the quadrennium except that Dan Eckstein was substituted for Mr. Linebeck. Since that time a Conference Sunday School Board or Board of Christian Education has been appointed quadrennially in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline.

In 1909, Rev. J. A. Halmhuber was appointed as the first Conference Sunday-school secretary. The office was continued until 1927. Adjusting its program in religious education to General Conference standards the conference, in 1927, elected Rev. D. C. Ostroth as the first conference director of Religious Education. He served in this capacity until 1934. His successor, Rev. C. B. Westfall, is the present director.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN LEADERSHIP

Among contributions in leadership to the Sunday-school movement the following should be mentioned:

Rev. F. C. Berger served as vice-president of the Michigan Sunday-School Association (Interdenominational) for the year beginning with October, 1902. In the fall of 1903, he was elected president of the organization, serving in that office for one year. In 1907, Brother Berger was elected by the General Conference as the first General Secretary of the Young People's work in the denomination, holding the position for twelve years. Several Michigan Conference leaders have been prominently identified with the Michigan State Sunday-school work. Among these should be mentioned, Rev. C. C. Gibson, Dr. G. I. Schellig, Rev. D. C. Ostroth, Rev. C. B. Westfall and Rev. A. E. Kurth.

JOINT CONVENTIONS

In October, 1892, the first state convention of the Young People's Alliance was held in Nashville. Until 1918 these conventions were devoted exclusively to Alliance (or Christian Endeavor) work. In 1918 the Sunday schools and Leagues of the conference united in their first joint convention at Bay Shore Park. Twenty-seven Sunday-school delegates were enrolled in this first convention. Annually since that time, until 1936, a similar convention has been held. Due to the strong district organizations centering in the four Assembly Grounds, state conventions are now held quadrennially only. Since 1924 no attempt has been made to classify delegates as representing Sunday schools or Leagues.

RECENT LOSSES

We have noted elsewhere in this volume the downward trends in Sunday-school enrollment during the past fifteen years. From a peak of 23,566 in 1926, the enrollment in the Sunday schools of the conference dropped to 19,043 in 1940. It is doubtful if we have reached the low point as yet. It is a situation that calls for serious study and vigorous action.

That the Sunday school will continue to hold an important place in the field of Christian Education for many years there can be no doubt. Its effectiveness will depend largely upon its leadership.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE AND EVANGELICAL LEAGUE OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

For many years there was no organized work for young people in the Evangelical Church. This was true of other denominations also. Such work as was done with young people was done largely through the regular services of the church, revival meetings, catechetical classes and occasionally a special meeting for young people conducted by the pastor.

In his diary, Rev. J. W. Loose reports having held a "good" young people's meeting at Wauseon on Sunday afternoon, August 31, 1879. It was quarterly meeting Sunday and Rev. S. Copley, presiding elder, was present.

Beginning with about this period, there seems to have been a growing conviction on the part of our pastors that there should be some organization for our young people. The late Rev. H. Voelker reported that, as a pastor, he usually had young people's meetings, even before the organization for the general church was effected. Gradually there sprang up throughout the denomination local organizations

for young people. What appears to have been the first young people's society established by the Evangelical church in Michigan was organized at West Mendon in October, 1890, Rev. F. C. Berger being the pastor. Buchanan also lays claim to having organized the first "Alliance," but, the date of organization is not available.

In July, 1890, Rev. S. P. Spreng, Editor of the *Evangelical-Messenger*, wrote an editorial urging that a general young people's society be organized. This is reported to have been the first word written by a denominational leader urging such an organization. The church was ripe for such a movement and in August, 1890, a meeting was called at Linwood Park to consider the advisability of such an organization. About 30 pastors were in attendance. Bishop J. J. Esher presided. The proposal met with favor and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution.

At a convention held at Linwood Park, August 10 to 12, 1891, a constitution was adopted which in turn was presented to the General Conference at Indianapolis in October, 1891. The General Conference gave its approval and the organization was completed by electing officers. Rev. C. A. Thomas was elected the first president. "The Young People's Alliance of the Evangelical Association" was adopted as the official name.

THE CONFERENCE BRANCH

Interest in young people's work spread rapidly and by 1892 a number of local alliances had been organized within the bounds of the Michigan Conference. Leaders of the conference believed that a conference Branch Young People's Alliance should be formed. Responding to a call, delegates from the various alliances met at East Raisenville on April 6, 1892 (on Wednesday of Conference Week) for the purpose of organizing a conference branch Y. P. A. Rev. J. G. Haller, a member of the General Board of Control, served as temporary chairman. The following officers were elected:

President	Rev. J. G. Haller
Vice-president	Rev. A. A. Scheurer
Recording secretary	Rev. F. C. Berger
Corresponding secretary	Rev. George Johnson
Treasurer	Mr. I. B. Miller

Twenty-one local alliances were reported within conference territory, with a membership of 650. A request was made that one-half day at the District Ministerial Conventions be devoted to the work of the Young People's Alliance. Plans were made for the first state convention of the Branch which was held at Nashville, Michigan, Monday and Tuesday, October 24 and 25, 1892. Eighteen delegates

were in attendance besides the officers and a number of pastors and visitors not enrolled as delegates. The membership in the Alliances of the Branch was reported at 686.

The program consisted mainly of essays and addresses dealing almost exclusively with alliance work. A committee was appointed to consider the advisability of publishing a Y. P. A. paper for the conference Branch, an ambitious thought. The convention pledged itself to undertake the organization of a local Alliance in every congregation.

Following the first convention in 1892, a State Branch Convention was held annually until the year of 1918 when the interests of the Sunday school were joined with those of the alliance in the Annual Convention. For ten years joint Alliance and Sunday-school conventions were held annually. In 1927 the leadership of the Young People's and Sunday-school work was merged under a Conference Board. Since that time both organizations have functioned through the Board of Christian Education.

With the merger of the Evangelical Association and the United Evangelical Church in 1922, the newly formed denomination identified itself with the Christian Endeavor movement and took for its Young People's organization the new name "Evangelical League of Christian Endeavor."

PROJECTS

In 1905, the Conference Branch took Monroe Mission as its missionary project and for several years gave this mission church substantial financial support. Since 1913 the following mission churches have been beneficiaries of the Conference Branch for extended periods,—Hamilton Blvd., Twelfth St., Pontiac Baldwin Ave., and East Detroit. With the exception of Hamilton Blvd., which is now a part of the merged Calvary church (Detroit), all of these churches are now important charges in the conference. In 1940 the new Mt. Pleasant Mission was taken as the home missionary project.

In 1920, the Conference Branch decided upon the support of Rev. and Mrs. Harvey Thede as a foreign missionary project. For twenty years the two-fold objective, home and foreign, has been carried. The high point in amount raised in any one year for these projects has been about \$3,000.00, divided equally between the projects.

Support was also given by the Conference Branch to campaigns on behalf of the Superannuation Fund and the Evangelical Theological Seminary.

OFFICERS

The following have served as president of the Conference Branch for the periods indicated: Rev. J. G. Haller, 1892-93; Rev. F. Klump, 1893-95; Rev.

W. A. Koehler, 1895-96; Rev. G. J. Kirn, 1896-99; Rev. J. R. Niergarth, 1899-1903; Rev. W. B. Oldt, 1903-05; Rev. H. I. Voelker, 1905-07; Rev. C. B. Stroh, 1907-11; Rev. D. C. Ostroth, 1911-13; Rev. J. A. Halmhuber, 1913-15; Rev. W. H. Watson, 1915-17; Rev. E. S. Faust, 1917-20; Rev. E. D. Riebel, 1920-25; Rev. W. Koteskey, 1925-26; Rev. F. W. Kirn, 1926-27.

ENROLLMENT

The enrollment of the Leagues of the Conference as of 1941 was as follows:

Ten Adult Leagues—enrollment	266
Fifty-nine Young People's Leagues	1,641
Sixteen Senior Leagues	337
Fourteen Intermediate Leagues	194
Eleven Junior Leagues	208

Total—110 Leagues. Enrollment2,646

EVANGELICAL YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION

When the responsibility for leadership in young people's work was largely taken from the young people and their elected leaders and planning for and participation in the state convention was also delegated to the Board of Christian Education it was soon discovered that some opportunity for participation should be provided for the young people. For several years, Youth Conferences for District groups were planned with good effect. Later the Conference Young People's Union was organized, with district organizations as auxiliary. At the request of the historian, the conference director, Rev. C. B. Westfall has prepared the following statement:

"This, the youngest of all our conference organizations, was begun in 1937 with Stanley Bauman serving as its first president. In the short period of time it has been in existence the Union has moved steadily forward to where, at the present time it may be truly said the Michigan Conference is as well organized in its youth program as any, and better than most, of our sister Annual Conferences.

"However, no statement regardless of how brief limited space may dictate it shall be, is complete without due recognition for what we have at the present time in both District and Conference Union work as being to a great extent the result of pioneering work, both in district and conference areas carried on in the years past by Rev. W. H. Watson, at that time superintendent of the Kalamazoo District. In his district work he successfully organized and launched a district young people's program and later was very active in the promotion of state-wide young people's meetings and conventions."

THE ALBRIGHT BROTHERHOOD

The following statement concerning the Brotherhood movement was also prepared by Rev. C. B. Westfall:

"Several years prior to 1930, when the General Conference of the Evangelical Church made official provision for the Albright Brotherhood, the men of several of our Michigan Conference churches had organized for the purpose of better serving their local churches and the kingdom at large.

Today the Michigan Conference Brotherhood, under the able leadership of Mr. Adolph B. Haist, a member of our Saginaw church, is on the way to an invaluable measure of service."

At the Men's Congress held at Flint in November, 1941, the following officers were elected: President, W. A. Hammond; vice-president, Wm. Bartz; secretary-treasurer, Mr. Lloyd Stewart.

SECTION XVII

EVANGELISM

The Evangelical Church has always been strongly evangelistic. Her very existence resulted from the efforts of her founder to meet the spiritual needs of a neglected people. Not unmindful of her social, educational and missionary responsibilities, she has firmly believed that all have sinned and hence that all need a Saviour. The task of bringing the sinner to his Saviour has engaged her most serious efforts for 140 years. It is quite unnecessary to say that the Michigan Conference has breathed deeply of this basic passion of the Evangelical Church. It is equally unnecessary to say that the numerical progress of the conference has resulted largely from this strong evangelistic emphasis.

PROTRACTED MEETINGS

Originally it would appear that the goal sought in almost every service was that men should seek the Lord for saving grace. To give necessary aid to seekers and to lengthen the opportunity for appeal to the unsaved, it became customary to protract the meeting. Sometimes the protracting was for two or three nights. Often it was for a week or more. In rare instances, protracted meetings ran for eight, ten, twelve and in one instance known to the writer, for 16 weeks. It was usually not determined in advance how long the meeting would be "protracted."

REVIVAL MEETINGS

In later years, protracted meetings came to be known as revival meetings and evangelistic campaigns. With the change of name it came also to be the custom to decide in advance the period for which the meeting would be held. Usually the meeting ran for a period of from ten days to three weeks.

PROFESSIONAL EVANGELISM

For almost a hundred years in the history of the Evangelical Church the pastor was usually his own evangelist, assisted often by a fellow pastor, the presiding elder or, occasionally, the Bishop. Toward the close of the century, professional evangelism came into prominence. It was popularized through the ministry of such outstanding leaders as Moody, Finney, and others. For about a quarter of a century 1900-25, professional evangelism, centering in the union meeting, tempo-

rary tabernacle, and evangelistic party, was in the foreground. Due to overemphasis and numerous evils that crept in, interest in this type of evangelism has waned very markedly. Professional evangelists no longer occupy the position of prominence held a quarter of a century ago.

While mass evangelism will undoubtedly always remain as part of the evangelistic technique, pastoral evangelism, and educational evangelism are receiving a much greater amount of attention than was true a few years ago.

THE COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

At the 1911 session of the Michigan Conference, Rev. E. G. Frye proposed the appointment of a Conference Commission on Evangelism whose duty it would be to give direction to a conference program of evangelism and foster a stronger evangelistic spirit in the churches of the conference.

In moving for the appointment of such a commission, he pointed out what appeared to be a slowing up of evangelistic progress in the conference and the work that might be done by the commission.

The conference appointed the following ministers as members of the commission: E. G. Frye, J. R. Niergarth, George Koehler, G. A. Hettler, F. Klump, W. C. Swenk, D. C. Ostroth, C. B. Stroh, and P. H. Pohly.

With occasional changes in personnel, the commission served until 1920. With the inauguration of the Forward Movement which embodied evangelistic objectives, the conference in 1920 appointed the Central Committee of the Forward Movement to serve as the Commission on Evangelism for the quadrennium. This arrangement prevailed until 1927, when a new commission was appointed.

With the organization of the Centennial Campaign in 1931, the Centennial Board was appointed as the Commission on Evangelism and served in this capacity for four years. In 1935 a new commission was appointed. With much the same personnel, the commission was reappointed in 1939.

Undoubtedly the Commission on Evangelism has rendered a valuable service to the conference and the Kingdom, in setting up objectives, outlining evangelistic programs, and in creating evangelistic passion.

The Victory Campaign, launched in 1919, was sponsored by the Commission on Evangelism and made an important contribution to conference progress.

Rev. E. S. Faust is the present chairman of the commission.

SECTION XVIII

CAMP MEETINGS

The American camp meeting appears to have had its origin among that zealous and devoted people, the Cumberland Presbyterians. They discovered that the camp meeting could be an effective agency for the promotion of the evangelistic ministry of the church. However, as a result of some unhappy circumstances that arose, the Cumberland people discontinued their promotion and use of the camp meeting.

Before the Presbyterians abandoned this type of work, the Methodists discovered the values to be derived from the camp meeting as an important method of summer evangelism, and as a valuable companion of the protracted meeting. Once adopted by the Methodist Church, the camp meeting idea spread across the country like a prairie fire. Other denominations, among them the Evangelical Church, proceeded to use and develop the camp meeting as an evangelistic and inspirational agency.

The camp meeting movement was introduced into the Evangelical Church in the year of 1810. The first meeting was held on the land of Michael Maize, near New Berlin, Pa., in May, 1810. "This, according to Stapleton, appears to have been the first German camp meeting ever held either in America or Europe." Many great camp meetings with far-reaching results were held in those early days.

CAMP MEETINGS IN MICHIGAN

The first camp meeting held by the Evangelical Church in Michigan was held at Fisher's Lake in St. Joseph County, near the West Mendon Evangelical church, beginning on Thursday evening, August 23, 1855.

In the summer of 1856, the pastors of St. Joseph Circuit conducted a blessed camp meeting at Flatbush near Marcellus. This appears to have been the second meeting in Michigan.

Near Ann Arbor in the summer of 1857, a fine camp meeting was held. The presiding elder, J. G. Zinzer was present. Ten tents were pitched. An audience of nearly one thousand were in attendance on Saturday. Ten persons were converted and united with the church. This was probably the third camp meeting conducted by Evangelicals in Michigan. Since that time many camp meetings have been held by the Evangelical church in Michigan. At Florence, Lima, West Unity, Strassburg, Marshall, Leighton, Capac, Goodland, Mooretown, Boyne

City, Elkton, and numerous other places camp meetings were held, in some instances for several years in succession.

The early camp meetings had but very limited equipment, usually there was no thought of permanence. Often only a platform in a shady grove was the tabernacle. Usually a large tent served as a place of worship. Seldom was there a dining hall. Family tents were pitched on the ground, serving both for lodging and commissary purposes. A tent served as a dormitory for ministers. For meals they were invited to the tents of their people. Here for a few days, occasionally for as long as ten days, and on very rare occasions for as long as several weeks, the people worshiped, fellowshipped, sought their own spiritual enrichment, and the salvation of their unsaved fellows.

Methods of promotion in those early years were relatively simple. Once the meeting was agreed upon an announcement was inserted in the Church papers and the pastors of participating churches canvassed their people in an effort to persuade them to pitch their tents and join the encampment. In his diaries, the late Rev. J. W. Loose, records his efforts on the Lima Circuit to induce people to pitch their tents at the camp meeting. With joy he records the names of those who have agreed to tent.

With the passing of the years the trend was away from the local camp meeting or bush meeting toward district and conference assemblies with permanent equipment and more elaborate programs. The first effort to establish a permanent assembly grounds appears to have been made in 1888 when a committee consisting of C. C. Staf-feld, P. Alles, N. Wunderlich, J. Orth, and F. Klump, purchased a site on Saginaw Bay, two miles north of Sebewaing. It consisted of 65 acres with 150 rods of lake frontage. A Flint District Stock Company was formed with an attempt to sell 200 shares of stock at \$10.00 per share. Rev. F. Klump was secretary of the company. For some reason the venture did not succeed. The second effort in this direction in Michigan came at Riverside Park in 1891. The story of the development of this ground is given in the "Riverside Sketch."

Riverside not being centrally located and being without boating and bathing privileges conference leaders conceived the idea of developing what it was hoped would become a great *conference* assembly ground. Accordingly a fine grove located on the south side of Lake Chemung (then known as Long Lake), near Howell, was leased from Mr. Henry C. Weimeister for a period of 15 years. The proposed park was christened Beulah Park. At the time it was believed that an interurban line between Detroit and Lansing would be constructed, running past the ground. This did not materialize and after two years of effort, 1903 and 1904, in which very elaborate assembly

programs were projected, the lease was withdrawn and the plans abandoned, due to the problems of transportation. It was on this ground that the Conference Branch Woman's Missionary Society organization was effected under the leadership of Mrs. P. H. Pohly. Rev. W. B. Oldt, pastor of Howell, 1903-1905, was president of the Conference Branch Young People's Alliance, and president of the Beulah Park Assembly.

Much of what conference leaders envisioned for Beulah Park has been realized at our four assembly grounds in later years. The following historical sketches tell the story for these projects:

A

LAKESIDE PARK

After the Beulah Park project was abandoned in 1904, no district-wide camp meetings were held on the Detroit District for twenty years. At a meeting of ministers in 1921, W. H. Watson being District Superintendent, the question of a suitable ground for the summer activities of the churches of the district was discussed with sympathetic interest. A committee was appointed to seek a suitable site. Over a period of two years the committee examined several locations but none were found to be suitable.

In April, 1923, Mr. Paul Sorge reported that his company had taken an option on 172 acres of land on the south side of School Lake, near Brighton. A committee visited the property April 10, 1923, and was favorably impressed with the property as a suitable assembly site. Monday, April 16, 1923, thirteen ministers and laymen representing the district visited the ground, voted to purchase the property at a price of \$18,500.00, and took steps toward the organization of the Detroit District Camp Meeting Association. Mr. L. J. Liesemer was requested to take title to the property for the proposed camp-meeting association, which he did.

In a meeting held May 25, 1923, at the Mack Avenue church the Detroit District Camp Meeting Association was organized, its membership consisting of all pastors of the district, one layman from each pastoral charge of the district, ten laymen elected at large, and the District Superintendent. A Board of Directors was chosen, the ground was named Lakeside Park, and provision for plotting of lots, digging a canal, and other proposed developments made.

The first meeting held on the ground was an Evangelical get-together July 4, 1923, at which time lots were first offered for sale. Several lots were sold on that day. A second gathering was held on Labor Day, 1923.

The first assembly was held on the ground July 23 to August 3, 1924. It was preceded by a boys' camp, attended by about 40 boys and overlapping the first Sunday of the assembly. A girls' camp was conducted during the last week of the assembly, continuing for a ten-day period. About 50 girls attended the first camp. The hotel, begun earlier in the summer of 1924, was used during the first camps and assembly. A large tent served as a tabernacle and tents were used to house the camps. The fee for the first boys and girls camps was \$8.00.

The first privately-owned cottages were erected on the ground at about this time. Since 1924 camps for boys and girls and an assembly have been held each year with growing interest and success.

Rev. C. C. Gibson became superintendent of the Detroit District in 1926, and for eight years gave fine leadership to Lakeside Park. A fine tabernacle was erected during the summer of 1926, under his supervision. During the eight years of his incumbency, other improvements made were gravel spread on the bathing beach, a dormitory housing 52 persons, and four camp cottages housing 36 persons.

During the period of the depression the already heavy debt was increased and unpaid taxes and interest accumulated to a point where fears of losing the grounds were entertained.

In May, 1934, W. H. Watson was returned to the district as superintendent. During the past six years the debt has been reduced in excess of \$10,000.00. During the same time Otjen Hall and a new duplex cottage have been erected, a craft shop provided, a water system constructed, a fine modern toilet system completed and other improvements made to a value of approximately \$7,000.00. By increased assets and reduced indebtedness the total picture has been improved to the extent of approximately \$18,000.00. This has been possible through the generous gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra G. Mistele, whose contributions total several thousand dollars, Miss Otjen, the churches, and young people of the district, several interested persons and groups, and the fine coöperation of all Evangelicals on the district. Other improvements are under way.

Lakeside Park is a beautiful assembly ground, well equipped and has the possibility of a great ministry to the Kingdom in future years.

B

BAY SHORE ASSEMBLY

During his term as presiding elder of the Flint District Rev. F. Klump was impressed with the need and the opportunity for a district assembly with a strong and rather elaborate program that might

serve a wider field than the district. By 1911 he had plans well crystallized. These he shared with the bishops of the Church. Their sentiments were expressed in the following quotations. Bishop Bowman: "I hope that the movement can be gotten under way." Bishop Horn: "Your plan strikes me as a most excellent one." Bishop Breyfogel: "The movement itself is what we need for our ministers and members." Bishop Spreng: "This is just the thing we have been hoping for."

Plans were made for the first assembly at Bay Port, Michigan, on land provided by Mr. W. H. Wallace. The following impressive array of speakers was secured: Bishops Bowman, Horn and Breyfogel, Professors G. J. Kirn and S. J. Gamertsfelder, Reverends W. H. Bucks, Geo. Johnson and Professor F. S. Goodrich.

The first officers were: Rev. F. J. Klump, president; Rev. A. A. Scheurer, vice-president; Rev. J. A. Schweitzer, secretary, and W. J. Scheurer, treasurer. A constitution was adopted September 12, 1911.

But Bay Port did not seem to be the most suitable place for a permanent location. In 1912, after several meetings of the Board, officers and directors (John Faist, Henry Kellerman, Samuel Wurtz, C. F. Giese and F. Kirn), it was decided to buy the old fair grounds at Sebewaing. This was done at a cost of \$2,150.00. The site included some additional ground leading to the water. Many of the stockholders of the fair ground turned in their stock leaving the cost to the church at between \$500.00 and \$600.00.

In the spring of 1912, Rev. J. M. Nyce was stationed on the district and under his supervision the grandstand was remodeled into a fine tabernacle seating about 1,200 persons at a cost of \$1,000.00. The floral hall was made into a dormitory, kitchen and dining hall. The office building was transformed into a store. The ground was named Bay Shore Park.

In connection with the first assembly held on the newly acquired grounds the Conference Branch Young People's Alliance held their annual convention under the presidency of Rev. D. C. Ostroth. Among the special speakers were Bishop T. Bowman, Rev's. L. H. Seager and E. M. Spreng and Prof. G. J. Kirn. Mr. L. L. Henry, of the Tuller & Meridith Co., directed the singing.

To provide more adequate quarters a new hotel building was erected in 1922 with a fine dining hall and kitchen on the first floor and a large number of sleeping rooms on the second floor. The cost was \$4,000.00, not including donated labor. A Delco lighting plant was installed in 1916. Six years later the buildings were rewired and the grounds connected with the local lighting plant.

Twenty-three privately owned cottages have been erected on the

ground. The property and equipment has a present value of \$25,000.00. The following have served as presidents: Rev's. F. J. Klump, J. M. Nyce, W. C. Swenk, G. Knechtel, C. A. Wilkie, D. C. Ostroth and Wm. Koteskey. The present officers are Wm. Koteskey, president; H. Stressman, vice-president; E. Beuschlin, secretary; W. Scheurer, treasurer. Also on the board of directors are H. W. Link, H. C. Heise, J. E. Montei, A. Schweitzer and Mose Braun.

C

A SHORT HISTORY OF RIVERSIDE CAMP GROUND

PREPARED BY MR. L. B. ROUGH

Camp-meeting Spirit: From the earliest recollections of the writer, he can recall the retelling of camp-meeting experiences by the pioneers of Portage Prairie. The love for outdoor meetings had become strong in the hearts of those early pioneers. And since in the last two decades of the nineteenth century no such meetings had been held on or near Portage Prairie, the longing for such a meeting had been left unsatisfied. Following the building of the present churches on Portage Prairie and in Buchanan, the possibility of having a camp meeting became a subject much discussed. Rev. J. A. Frye, the pastor of these churches was an ardent camp-meeting man. Among the lay leaders in these churches were such men as Wm. R. Rough and Wm. Conrad of Buchanan, and Peter Womer, Geo. W. Rough, H. G. Houswerth, and others of Portage Prairie.

The \$10.00 Share Plan: The agitation for a camp meeting came to a climax when, in the summer of 1891, shares in the proposed camp-meeting association were sold, sufficient to purchase a tent tabernacle outfit and a camp meeting was accordingly held on the present grounds, then the property of Francis Gano.

First Camp Meeting: This then was the first camp meeting held at Riverside, August, 1891. The interest shown by the public in this first meeting assured the success of the venture. At the business meeting held during this gathering under the direction of Rev. J. A. Frye, now presiding elder, the names of other prominent preachers appear, such as F. Klump, W. A. Koehler, Geo. Johnson, F. C. Berger.

First Board Trustees: Lima, C. Berger; Jackson, Geo. Johnson; Park, F. C. Berger; Royalton, Francis Fleisher; Portage Prairie, Peter Womer, Geo. W. Rough, A. C. House; Buchanan, J. A. Frye, Wm. R. Rough.

First Officers: President, J. A. Frye; vice-president, Wm. R. Rough; secretary, F. C. Berger; treasurer, Peter Womer.

Incorporate: At a meeting held in the Buchanan church on February 8, 1892, articles of incorporation were adopted.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Riverside Camp Meeting of St. Joseph District, Michigan Conference, of the Evangelical Association of North America.

VOTING POWER

Members of the Buchanan and Portage Prairies Societies.

Ground Purchased: March 21, 1892. Deed made out to A. C. House, Wm. Conrad, Peter Womer, G. W. Rough, H. G. Houswerth, Wm. R. Rough and H. Broceus, in trust.

Purchase price \$1,500.00 less \$300.00 donated by Mr. Gano.

First Difficulty: The first difficulty encountered was the providing of water on the grounds. A driven well near the center of the grounds was sunk to a depth of 318 feet without getting water. This effort cost \$150.00. Another attempt: The present well in front of the hotel was dug to a depth of some fifty feet when a large supply of water was found.

Eating Tent: The first public eating accommodations were furnished in a tent.

Hotel: A substantial frame hotel building was erected in 1898.

To this building several additions were made through the years as needed, until at present some fifty rooms are available, while the dining room has a seating capacity of about 125.

Tabernacle: The Cloth Tabernacle gave good service for twenty-three years. By this time it had become so worn that it failed to be serviceable in wet weather. It was then decided to get a sawmill onto the grounds and utilize some of the surplus timber on the grounds in the building of a new wood tabernacle. This was accomplished in 1914. Tabernacle cost \$1,770.00.

During the summer of 1938 a new roof and a new wood floor were added at a cost of \$1,122.00.

Refreshment Store: It was during this same year that the new refreshment store was built at a cost of \$330.00.

Toilets: In 1926 two sanitary toilets were added to the equipment at a cost of \$1,000.00

Boys-Girls Camps: Perhaps no one other item has proved so helpful to Riverside as the holding of the boys and girls camps. The life and inspiration brought yearly to Riverside by these live wires, their giving of their young lives to Christ has been the greatest stimulus to increased effort of the management. The Young People's Union, the

Leader's Training classes, in addition to the camps has added so many young people to the grounds that the whole program of the camp meeting has been changed for the better. Four cabins were erected in 1936, costing \$1,400.00.

Mt. Olive Chapel, 1936: The moving and rebuilding on the grounds of Mt. Olive Chapel has added materially to the young people's work. This was done in 1935 at a cost of \$800.00.

Finances: For a period of twenty years from the beginning of the camp meeting, financial support of the organization was derived from the sale of admission tickets to the grounds. This plan though objected to by many, however, provided sufficient funds for a time. But as the novelty of the new camp ground gradually wore off, this income declined to such an extent that it became a major question whether or not to continue the meetings. The open gate advocates pressed their arguments until finally in 1912 the gates were thrown wide open, and free-will offerings were substituted for ticket sales. This change seemed to put new life into the waning interest. The debt which had increased to the cash value of the property was wiped out in a few years, and new improvements have steadily been made as previously noted. At the present time nearly every convenience for the comfort of attendants at the meetings has been provided.

Indebtedness: There remains an indebtedness of only \$1,200.00 against the association which no doubt will soon be taken care of.

Golden Anniversary: In 1941 the association celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with fitting ceremonies.

The influence of Riverside in the past years on the work of the church in the southwestern part of the state is beyond measuring. A great many of the present active workers in this field found their inspiration at the altars of Riverside. So may it continue to exert its influence upon those who may from year to year come to seek rest, and comfort, and guidance, neath its tranquil canopies.

D

ALBRIGHT PARK ASSEMBLY GROUND

Under the leadership of Rev. J. Riebel and Rev. H. Voelker, pastors at Reed City and Hersey respectively, and Rev. F. Klump, presiding elder of the Grand Rapids District, the first camp meeting to be held in the vicinity of Albright Park was held in the J. Hainbecker's woods about one-half mile west of the present site, in the year 1898. For three years meetings were held at this location with marked success.

In 1901, Rev. J. Riebel leased the present site from the Pere Marquette Railroad. A beautiful grove on Hersey River; it was an ideal location for a camp. When an attempt was made in 1907 to purchase the property Brother Riebel discovered that the property was not for sale. Not discouraged he went upon his knees one night earnestly praying that God would in some way bring it to pass that the property would be offered for sale. During the same week he received word from the company that the property could be purchased and at what he regarded as a very reasonable price. The Camp Meeting Association purchased ten acres for the sum of \$200.00. Much credit for the success of the camp is due to Brother Riebel's perseverance and foresight in those earlier years. The Camp Meeting Association was officially organized in 1907 and trustees duly elected. In the early years the preaching was done by the pastors and presiding elder of the Grand Rapids District and was largely in the German language.

The first tabernacle was a large tent purchased in 1902. The present tabernacle was erected in 1919, being 64 by 80 feet and having a seating capacity of 750 persons. Much credit for the erection of the tabernacle is due Dave Hill, who served as evangelist in 1917 and 1918. He suggested the need for the building, solicited part of the funds and gave counsel concerning some timber available on the ground.

The name, "Albright Park," was chosen in 1907. A new dining hall was erected in that year. About 1920 the dining hall was enlarged with dormitories on the second floor. Later a kitchen with dormitories above was added. Again, 1939, these buildings were remodeled to accommodate more people. In 1925 a large dormitory accommodating fifty people was erected. In 1920 several cottages were erected on the ground. A large fireproof and burglar proof storehouse was built in 1939. In 1940 a fine toilet system was completed.

The first lighting equipment was gasoline torches. After the tabernacle was built the electric line from Hersey was extended to the grounds. Later Consumers Power service was secured.

Bishop Thomas Bowman came to the grounds in 1904 as the first outside speaker. Since that time several bishops, evangelists, and special speakers have served the assembly. The program has been greatly enlarged and expanded in recent years. In 1939 the first camps for boys and girls were conducted. Leadership training courses established in 1937 have been conducted successfully. On numerous occasions Albright Park has been host to Ministerial, Christian Education and Women's Missionary Society Conventions.

Albright Park has a beautiful ground, is well equipped, and has an encouraging outlook for the future.

SECTION XIX

EVANGELICAL ANECDOTES, HUMOROUS AND SERIOUS

The experiences of life are varied. Like a great organ, life has its high, piping, treble notes and also its low, booming, bass notes. There are experiences that convulse us with uncontrollable laughter and mirth and there are experiences that bruise and break the heart with quenchless sorrow and grief. These experiences are the unforgettables.

In between are the commonplaces, often drab and uninteresting but of great importance. In a conference history the commonplaces may be expressed in masses of rather uninteresting statistics and an almost endless accumulation of dates and names. It is difficult to array them in bright colors, they are the plain whites and blacks of denominational life. But they are fundamentals. To change the figure, they are the steel girders that give form and meaning to the entire historical building. But in a "historical cathedral" there should be some colored windows and ornamental carvings.

And so we are including a few of the "unforgettables," the "trebles and basses," "art glass windows," if you please; experiences that have stirred human emotions deeply. Just a few anecdotes, and only a few, out of the many that might be included if space permitted.

THE REMARKABLE CONVERSION OF WILLIAM RIEMKE

The historian was attending a home coming service at East Gilead in October, 1931. While sitting in a Sunday-school class on Sunday morning, he overheard some one sitting behind him remark, to a companion, that he had attended the dedication of the church in the early "seventies" and had been seated up by the pulpit during the service of dedication, having been but a small boy at the time. He remarked further that his father had been a minister in the Michigan Conference.

Alert for new clues that might lead to further information regarding the conference and its ministers, we awaited a suitable moment, turned slightly, identified the speaker and resolved upon an interview at an opportune time.

Later in the day the opportunity came. We introduced ourselves and admitted our interest in the remark that we had overheard. He introduced himself as Mr. Allen Riemke, a resident in an adjoining community and a son of the late Rev. Wm. Riemke, licensed by the Michigan Conference in 1865.

As I encouraged him to tell about his father, he related this very remarkable and interesting experience in the course of our conversation. I have checked each detail with him and the story is as follows:

It was a mid-summer afternoon in the year of 1855. A Lake Shore and Michigan Southern train was speeding over the rails between New York and Chicago. Among the passengers was a young man, a German immigrant. Trained in the Fatherland for the priesthood of the Catholic Church he had left his home in Prussia more than two months before. In Chicago he was to be given charge of a Catholic parish. After a weary tedious journey of eight weeks on a sailing vessel, crossing the Atlantic, he had landed at New York and was now nearing the end of his journey. His railway ticket provided for a stopover, the place to be of his own choosing. That he might have better opportunity to view this new and strange land, he was planning to use his stopover privileges. He was now within a hundred miles of Chicago. If he was to make use of the stopover privilege he must do so soon. Finally, as the train drew near to LaPorte, Indiana, he decided to stop off at that town for over night.

He informed the conductor of his decision and requested that his trunk (a wooden chest), be set off at the station. The conductor urged that this was unnecessary since the trunk could as well be carried into Chicago and await his arrival on the morrow. He insisted that the trunk be set off and he would recheck it the next day as he continued his journey. The reason for his insistence on this point he could never fully explain.

When the train arrived at the station he alighted, made provision for the care of his trunk, looked about for a few minutes and decided upon a walk into the country for a bit of needed exercise and as a sight-seeing expedition. He chose the road leading south from the town. After walking about two miles he came opposite a farm house just as the farmer, Mr. Thomas Sales, crossed the road from the house. They greeted one another, the German lad speaking in broken English. Said the farmer, "From your speech I note that you are a foreigner." The stranger admitted the fact, explaining the reason for his presence and his plan to continue on to Chicago the next morning.

With true rural hospitality, the farmer invited him to be his guest until the next day, saying that he would be welcome and need not go to the hotel. The invitation was accepted and they proceeded to the house where they visited until supper was ready. After the evening meal they continued their conversation until about nine o'clock when the host suggested that his guest might be ready to retire.

Taking the lamp he led the way upstairs and through a hall to a large bedroom containing, besides the usual bedroom furniture, a table and a good-sized library of books. Setting down the lamp, the host informed his guest that the room was his until the next day. He was at liberty to read, write or retire as he saw fit. Bidding his guest a hearty "good night" he withdrew.

How strange and mysterious is the providence of God! After his host withdrew, the young man decided he would look over the books in the library before he retired. Examining one book after another he came to one that caught his attention. It was a book entitled "Catholicism in the Dark Ages." This was something new. He had had a lurking suspicion that Catholicism was not the perfect religious instrument that it had been depicted to him. But a book with such a title was startling, to say the least. He sat down, he opened the book, he read, he was astounded, he was thrilled, he was stirred to the depths of his soul. The recital of persecutions, of Protestant martyrs, of Catholic cruelties, amazed him, stung him, aroused him. The clock struck three the next morning before he laid the book down. He was a changed man for he had decided to repudiate his church and abandon his ministry. If that book told the truth and he believed that it did, he was through, he would not go on to Chicago, he would be done with the whole thing. That settled in his mind he lay down to rest for the remainder of the night.

In the morning he arose in time for breakfast. When the time for his train arrived, and he made no sign to go, his host reminded him of the hour. Then he, in turn, revealed all that transpired during the night, how he had retired to the room a Catholic priest but through the reading of the book had repudiated his church and had decided not to go on to Chicago. He expressed a desire to find work and was engaged by his host as a farm hand for the balance of the summer.

During his stay in the community he met the woman who later became his wife. Three years later he married. Four years after his marriage he attended a Methodist revival meeting with his wife, came under deep conviction, became angry at the preacher, finally yielded, was happily converted and because of preference for the German language began attending an Evangelical church. Shortly he felt a call to the ministry, resisted the call, later yielded and became one of the pioneer preachers of the Michigan Conference. In the late "seventies" he took his credentials to the Kansas Conference where he died in the early "nineties."

To the writer it was a most unusual and thrilling experience.

WHEN PETER PRAYED

At the 1915 Conference Session held in Grand Rapids (First) church, an incident occurred that has remained fresh in the memories of most of the ministers present at the time.

Bishop S. C. Breyfogel was the presiding officer. As is the custom at conference sessions, the bishop conducted the devotions at the opening of each session of the conference. At the opening of the morning periods, time was usually taken for a more formal address by the Bishop on some subject vital to the work of the minister. At the opening of the Friday morning session of that week, the bishop delivered the second in a series of three addresses on "The Coming Revival."

Gifted with an unusual command of language and the capacity for impressive flights of oratory, the bishop outdid himself on this occasion. Concluding an address eloquent in literary expression and replete with illustrations from the field of science, art, literature and history, the bishop called upon the conference to kneel while Rev. Peter Scheurer offered the prayer.

For the benefit of those who never knew Peter Scheurer it should be explained that he was a man of unusual talents, gifted with a remarkable imagination, a native vein of effective humor and a command of language that often reached the heights of eloquence. His manner of expression was often exceedingly humorous.

On this occasion the conference knelt reverently in prayer in accordance with the bishop's request, the phrases of the bishop's eloquent address ringing in its ears. Kneeling also, Peter began to pray after this fashion: "Oh, Lord, we thank thee for thy great mercies to us. And, Oh Lord, you know that we cannot soar up into the starry heavens on the wings of oratory and gather cream from the milky way with which to churn literary butter, but, Oh Lord, give us a chunk of the fatted calf."

On and on his prayer continued couched in this highly imaginative language. Apparently he was quite oblivious of what was happening to the conference. On his knees the bishop was chuckling until his whole body shook and it is to be doubted that he could have heard the Lord had he spoken at that moment. He was listening to Peter Scheurer. Almost every member of the conference had forgotten that this was a time of prayer and communion with God. It had become a time when ministers were listening to one of their number, voice an unusual prayer, a prayer that few have forgotten.

AN UNFINISHED WEDDING CEREMONY

To have a wedding ceremony broken up in the very midst is a bit unusual in the experience of a minister. In the summer of 1921, the

historian, serving the Detroit District as superintendent, went to Carleton for a quarterly meeting, Rev. S. Young being the pastor. Shortly after our arrival late Friday afternoon, two young couples appeared inquiring if the pastor could perform a wedding ceremony the next evening (Saturday) at 8 P. M. Assured that he would be able to do so they left.

Shortly before 8 P. M. Saturday evening, both couples returned, one couple to be married, the other as witnesses. After a few moments of conversation, the pastor asked for the marriage license and after the usual preliminary inquiries and preparations, proceeded with the ceremony, the second young couple standing up as witnesses, the pastor's wife and the superintendent being seated as spectators.

The introductory portion of the ceremony had been read and the pastor was about to ask the couple to take the usual vows when a man ascended the steps to the door of the parsonage quite hurriedly, rapped on the door, and when the pastor's wife responded, inquired if the "preacher is at home." The reply was, "yes, but he is busy for the present." "Is there a young couple here to be married?" was the next question, excitedly voiced. "Yes, the ceremony is in progress now," was the reply. "Well they are not to be married, that girl is under age!" was the stern command.

By this time the mother of the girl had joined her husband at the door insisting that the marriage ceremony should not be performed. In this strange predicament the pastor turned to his superintendent for counsel. Should he disregard the protests of the parents and finish the ceremony or should he send the young people away with the embarrassment of a frustrated marriage. The superintendent was quite as much puzzled as the pastor, but finally advised consultation with the parents, at least before proceeding. Shortly parents, minister, young people and spectators were gathered at the door, the parents on the outside of the screen door, for a conference.

The parents professed no objection to the prospective son-in-law, but were insistent that the marriage be postponed for some months at least. Said the mother to her daughter, as the discussion became animated, "I ran away and was married at exactly your age and I have been sorry ever since." If her husband saw the point, he betrayed no resentment. He may have been sorry too.

The affair terminated with the parents agreeing to waive objections if the young people would return home and wait a few months. The sequel came one week later when the young couple ran away and were married by another minister. It was one wedding ceremony that my good friend, Sumner Young, did not finish, through no fault of his own.

KICKED BY THE PRESIDING ELDER

Extra! Extra! All about the preacher who was kicked by his presiding elder. To be literally "kicked" by the presiding elder is an unusual experience for a minister, though he may be subjected occasionally to some verbal kicks from this source. In this case the presiding elder was "mortified" and the preacher uninjured.

It happened at Albright Park about 1916. The ministers' dormitory at the camp was a tent. Straw ticks served as mattresses and in economizing space the beds had been placed very close together. The presiding elder, Rev. George Koehler, a splendid Christian gentleman, and the ministers, a half dozen or more, were retiring for the night, following the evening service. A disposition to hilarity prevailed and some playful pranks had been perpetrated by some members of the group. The presiding elder had indulged moderately in the hilarity.

Rev. G. Raduchel, a spectator but not a participant, had donned his night garments and had crouched down upon his knees between the beds to offer his evening prayer. Believing that he was seeking some lost article between the beds, the presiding elder, already in bed, reached out his foot and rather gently half-pushed and half-kicked the praying preacher. Brother Raduchel, thinking it was an accident, shifted his position and went on with his prayer. Again a well-aimed kick, slightly more forceful than the first, disturbed his prayer. Again he looked up and returned to his devotions.

When the kick was repeated a third time with still greater force he straightened up and inquired what it was all about. And then, for the first time, the presiding elder realized that the man was engaged in prayer. Embarrassed beyond words he offered the most abject apologies, assuring Brother Raduchel that he was not aware that he was engaged in prayer. No one could have been more humiliated than the presiding elder, naturally a sensitive soul.

To add to his embarrassment the other ministers caught up the affair and with mock-seriousness asserted that matters had reached a serious stage when a presiding elder would deliberately kick one of his ministers because he was praying. It surely seemed time for an investigation. Deaf to his protestations that he was not aware that Brother Raduchel was praying the ministers continued their "razzing" until the presiding elder saw that an attempt at explanation was useless. Turning over he went to sleep, or at least remained silent.

THE DEATH OF A PIONEER MINISTER'S CHILD

The pioneer minister usually had an extended circuit with a long string of appointments. Often these circuits covered hundreds of

miles and would have 25 or more appointments. Even if the circuit rider preached every evening and traveled constantly, it often required a month for him to make the rounds of his charge.

During the early years of the ministry of Rev. Andrew Nicolai, one of the first presiding elders of the Michigan Conference, a very pathetic incident occurred in their family life.

Brother Nicolai was at the time a pastor in the Indiana Conference. He had an extended circuit of 30 or more appointments. On one occasion he set out on a tour of his circuit, leaving the members of his family in good health. After several days he returned to find that a daughter, a beautiful child, had been stricken with croup, had died and been buried during the father's absence. It was a terrible shock to him and his companion.

Means of communication were poor and no one knew where to find him on his extensive circuit. The sorrowing mother had to bear the burdens of that sad hour alone. This incident helps us to an appreciation of the numerous hardships and sorrows experienced by the pioneer minister and his family.

A PREACHER IN THE STRAW

A bush meeting was being held on the Riverton Charge. A tent had been erected and arranged so that the front portion served as a canopy over the pulpit and preacher's platform, while the rear section was used as sleeping quarters for the ministers attending the meeting. A curtain, probably of bed sheets, separated the two sections.

During one of the services, a minister (Rev. W. D. Gamertsfelder), while on the platform, became quite demonstrative and hilarious. In his cavorting about the platform he lost his balance, toppled over backwards and plunged through the curtains into the straw in the dormitory section to the surprise and amusement of the audience.

Picking himself up he returned to the platform much subdued and abashed by this unceremonious plunge into the straw.—*Reported by Rev. A. Ostroth.*

A WIDOW'S MITE

While pastor at Whittaker, Rev. A. Ostroth was sent to East Raisenville to solicit money for the debt remaining against the Whittaker church. Rev. C. W. Ross, pastor of the Ida Charge, accompanied him. In driving from home to home they found the roads almost impassable because of mud.

In their journeys they came to the home of a poor widow who had nine children. They scarcely knew what to do. They hesitated to ask her for help because of her poverty and yet they feared to pass

her by lest she be offended. Finally they decided to stop and tell her of their mission.

When they told her of the purpose of their visit she gave a smile of encouragement, went into her room, got her purse from under the straw tick and shortly returned with a \$2.00 bill which she gave to Brother Ostroth. He protested that the amount was too great and he could not accept it. But the widow was insistent, he must take it. The Lord had been very good to her. That belonged to him. Then she recited the story of her poverty and sorrow and the Lord's goodness.

Said she, "When my husband died leaving me with nine children and in great poverty, I entered my room, threw myself upon my face and asked God for wisdom and help to carry on. Here were my children, the father and bread-winner was gone and we were almost destitute. I pleaded with God to help me. On my knees I received the assurance that God would not fail me."

Then she told of the Lord's goodness. She had been able to care for her children. With their assistance she had managed the farm and had just completed the building of a home. The cost of the building was fully paid and she had just \$2.00 left, the two dollar bill she had given. That belonged to the Lord. The minister must take it for the Lord's cause.

Then she told of having recently attended a quarterly meeting, held fifteen miles from her home. Inquiry revealed that she had walked the fifteen miles to and from the meeting. Not only had she walked thirty miles but had been compelled to walk over a road in which the mud was so deep that it was almost impassable. With illumined face she told of how wonderful the meeting had been and how she had praised God all the way home, even though shouts of praise were punctuated with splashes of mud.

And now she was giving her last penny to the Lord, a widow's mite.
—*Reported by Rev. A. Ostroth.*

GOD'S SERVANT GOES HOME

Rev. Chandler S. Brown stands out as one of the devoted and sacrificial pioneers of the Michigan Conference. When age and ill health compelled cessation of active ministry, he retired to the East Gilead community where he continued as a great inspiration and help to pastors and people. Here he spent his declining years.

One morning he did his morning chores as usual, came into the house, lay down on the couch, crossed his limbs, folded his hands over his chest, closed his eyes and—*breathed his last*. Unaware of what had occurred, his wife continued to talk to him. Shortly she noticed

that he was not making reply. She turned and looked at him, guessed the truth and exclaimed, "My God, is Pa dead"? It was even so. But it seemed a fitting close to a beautiful life, an appropriate home-going for a saintly soul.—*Reported by Rev. A. Ostroth.*

A TOOTH BRUSH

We have the following from a relative of a charter member of the Michigan Conference. This person, whose name we withhold, though a man of zeal and devotion is reported to have been a bit uncouth. His piety, integrity and effectiveness stand unchallenged but he lacked some of the outward symbols of refinement.

After having lived in Michigan for several years he returned to visit his relatives in Pennsylvania, of whom he had a large number. While in a certain home, his brother's, if we remember correctly, a young lady, his niece, happened to come upon him brushing his teeth with her tooth brush.

Though much surprised she retained her poise and without betraying her feelings and with a gesture of generosity she said, "Uncle George, since you do not have a tooth brush I will give you mine." Her further surprise can be imagined when he said, with evident appreciation of her offer, "Oh, no, thank you, I really do not need it for they have tooth brushes everywhere I go." Though further pressed he firmly refused to accept the offer, since he really did not need a tooth brush.

BLISSFIELD OR HEAVEN

In the nineties a certain minister of the conference was transferred from a pastorate at Blissfield to Pomona. The contrast was very great and his disappointment more than he could conceal, though it is not reported that he tried very hard to conceal it. His mental distress was accentuated by the unhappiness of his wife whose tears flowed frequently and profusely. Almost constantly, both publicly and privately, he praised Blissfield with its many advantages and expressly, or by implication, compared it with Pomona, which was largely a lumbering section.

This annoyed the Pomona people greatly, especially a certain Mrs. Schaefer. On one or two occasions she dropped remarks in the presence of the pastor that were intended to inform him regarding the sentiments of the people. Apparently nothing was accomplished and profuse praise for Blissfield continued, in season and out of season.

Finally it seemed time to administer a cure. On one occasion a testimony meeting was being held in the church. Several had given their testimonies when Mrs. Schaefer arose and gave her testimony about as follows: "Dear Brothers and Sisters, I am doing my best

to live a good Christian life. I do want to please my Lord and I hope, when I die, that the Lord will grant me an entrance into heaven. But if I do not get to heaven I hope that at least I shall get as far as Blissfield."

It is reported that the cure was very effective and that praise for Blissfield almost, if not entirely, ceased.

A WINTER BATH

In the winter of 1888, shortly before he was licensed for the ministry, Rev. W. F. Kring, who was living on the North Custer Road, on the north side of the Raisin River in Monroe County, was to conduct revival services in the Strasburg church.

The most direct route to the church was to cross the river on the ice and walk over the highway to the church. In making the crossing he had reached the center of the river when the ice gave way and he was plunged into the freezing water up to his neck.

With some difficulty he extricated himself, returned home, borrowed his brother's clothes, and returned to the river with two fence boards which he used for additional support on the ice. He made a successful crossing and reached the church where he held a successful revival with about twenty conversions.

THE MINISTER LOST HIS HEAD

In a certain church service in the pioneer days of the conference, great excitement and merriment prevailed. The pastor, quite bald, wore a "wig." On this occasion he was in the midst of his sermon and had become animated and very forceful in his delivery. As he gave his head a vigorous shake in emphasis upon some important point in his sermon his wig fell off and tumbled to the floor.

It happened that an aged sister was seated on one of the front pews. Her vision, due to age, was very poor and she was not able to see distinctly what had occurred. To her uncertain vision the tragedy seemed much worse than it actually was and she cried out in great alarm, "My God, his head has fallen off." Fortunately it was only his hair.

TOBACCO ON THE SLY

Use of tobacco by the ministers of the conference was quite common in the early years. In fact in some Evangelical churches, spittoons were placed for the convenience of the male members of the congregation and in at least one instance, according to reports, accommodations were provided for the minister, a spittoon being placed on either side of the pulpit.

But there seems to have been a growing opposition to the use of tobacco, though some continued to use it privately and often secretly. The following incident from the year of 1870, as told by one of the parties to the affair, is both humorous and illuminating. The names of the men, both men of great prominence in the conference, are withheld. Both were able and devout men and must be judged in the light of the practices of their day, not ours. We quote:

"We now started back to BLANK. It was quite cold and sleighing was fine. Finally Brother BLANK said he would get out and walk since his feet were cold. I told him mine were too. So we took quite a walk, but I thought Brother BLANK acted very strange since he seemed to try hard to keep behind me. I became somewhat suspicious and watched him out of the corner of my eye. I saw that he made an effort to get his hand in his pocket, so I said, 'I believe you would like to have a chew of tobacco.' He said, 'Wouldn't you?' I answered in the affirmative, so he got out the weed and we both partook of the same. Up to that time he did not know that I used it, nor did I know that he used it. He did not wish to set me a poor example and I was afraid to use it before him. The reader may imagine, if he can, how both of us felt relieved. But I am glad to say that soon after this I quit it for good."

A CALL FOR A FUNERAL

In these days of telephones, concrete highways, automobiles and all modern facilities for communication and transportation, it is difficult to get a mental picture of conditions seventy years ago. The following incident from the ministry of Rev. Samuel Heininger will help the reader to understand the problems that faced the minister in those days.

It was during the year of 1871. Brother Heininger was pastor of the Sebewaing Circuit which had ten or more appointments scattered over a wide area. From this point we quote.

"While on this charge, I got word one night, about midnight, that I should preach a funeral sermon the next forenoon at ten o'clock, 45 miles from home. I at once arose, got my horse ready while my wife prepared a lunch for me. At one o'clock I was in the saddle, and between 6 and 7 A. M., I was at Jacob Striffler's, 26 miles from home, where I got a good breakfast and before 10 A. M., I was on the spot.

"In those days coffins were made by hand, and this time a very slow mortal was the undertaker. We had to wait till 4 o'clock till the coffin came, and then we had the funeral. Since I had to be home the next day at noon, I had to go part of the way that night, but it got

so dark that I could not find my way through the woods, so I stayed in a barn until it got light enough that I could see to travel, then started out and got my breakfast at the same place I did the day before. By noon, I was at home again. A ride of ninety miles to attend a funeral."

THE POWER OF HABIT

This one is on the conference historian. It occurred at the conference session of 1932.

The General Conference at its session in October, 1930, voted to recommend changing the name "presiding elder" to the more modern, and it was believed more appropriate name "district superintendent." Submitted to the Annual Conferences in 1931, it received the vote necessary to make it a law and was declared to be a law by the bishops late in 1931. Henceforth there were no more "presiding elders." For many the term "presiding elder" was so familiar that the use of the term "district superintendent" did not come easy, the writer being one of that number.

During the 1932 conference session, the victim of this incident, being chairman of the board of district superintendents, was called upon to present to the conference some action taken by that board. The late Bishop J. F. Dunlap, a man well known for his wealth of keen wit and a demeanor that at its worst could be indescribably austere, was in the chair.

Having arisen to his feet the speaker, thinking only of the matter to be presented, began: "Mr. Chairman and members of the conference, the presiding elders"—He got no farther for the bishop cut in sternly (though it is probable that a twinkle might have been noted in his eye) with "there are no presiding elders. The last General Conference disposed of them all. We now have district superintendents." A hearty laugh by the conference followed this verbal sally by the bishop.

Quiet was finally restored and the speaker, somewhat embarrassed, proceeded,—“Mr. Chairman and members of the conference, the presiding elders”—But further remarks were checked by a great roar of laughter. When the laughter had subsided a bit the bishop, with increased vehemence, broke in again, "I told you there are no presiding elders. If you use that term again I shall fine you \$1.00 for each offense."

Now thoroughly embarrassed by the hilarity resulting from this second offense, the hapless victim humbly acknowledged the bishop's threat, faced the conference again and, bearing the mental burden of the explanation he was about to make, began a third time. "Mr. Chairman and members of the conference, as I was about to say,

the presiding elders"— And now pandemonium reigned. Three times in a row the error had been made. And now, according to episcopal edict, a fine must be paid.

The cynosure of all eyes, the now badly flustered district superintendent drew forth his purse and fished out a dollar bill which he tendered the bishop in payment of his fine. The bishop was now slightly embarrassed since he had no desire to collect the fine and yet under the circumstances he could hardly refuse to accept it. However, with a gracious gesture, he accepted the fine and passed it to the secretary with instructions that it be returned to the offender. This ceremony was finally completed and the unfortunate victim of the power of habit, made his fourth start.

"Mr. Chairman and members of the conference, the district superintendents"— At last the mental machinery clicked and he was able to proceed with his address. As for the conference, it had enjoyed five minutes (the affair was not timed) of side-splitting mirth at his expense.

"SATAN LEADING ON"

While pastor of the Calvary church, Akron, Ohio, the late Bishop L. H. Seager, who presided over the Michigan Conference on three occasions, had a most amusing experience.

A young couple in his church had arranged to be married in the church at the close of a Sunday evening service. It was agreed that following the evening sermon the wedding party, with the pastor, would meet in the basement of the church and, led by the pastor, would march down the center aisle of the church to the altar where the ceremony would be performed.

For some reason there was delay in completing arrangements for the processional. The waiting congregation upstairs grew slightly restless. Someone, feeling that something should be done to break the monotony, led in the singing of a hymn. Without much thought as to appropriateness the hymn chosen was "Hold the Fort for I am Coming," a favorite at that time.

Just as the wedding party began its march down the aisle from the rear of the church, led by the pastor, a dignified and stately personality, the congregation began to sing the verse:

"See the hosts of sin advancing,
Satan leading on."

Knowing Bishop Seager's rich sense of humor, as also his fine judgment in respect to proprieties, one can well imagine that he must have had mingled feelings during that march down the aisle.

HIGHLY HONORED

Many converts of the Evangelical Church in the early years enjoyed unusual conversion experiences. Some came out of churches that were formal and ritualistic. Many of them had passed through periods of deep conviction. Some had sought for forgiveness for sin for many days at an altar of prayer. A glorious climax had been reached in a deeply emotional conversion experience. The burden of sin was thrown off and a great joy possessed them. From the depths of despair they had come, emotionally, to what seemed like a foretaste of heaven. Joyously they praised God for the blessings of his saving grace.

An interesting incident is reported from the Royalton Charge. The date is not established, but it was apparently in the "seventies or eighties."

A certain lady, an attendant and member of the Lutheran church, had been happily converted in an Evangelical meeting. Out of a full heart, the praises of God were constantly on her lips.

Shortly after her conversion she attended services in her own church. Frequently during the service, she burst forth with a hearty "Amen" or "Praise the Lord." With each outburst of praise, frowns and scowls were focussed in her direction, expressing silently but fiercely the profound disapproval of both members of the audience and the pastor, who recognized her as a *deluded* victim (?) of Evangelical influence.

At last the pastor could contain himself no longer. Sharply he commanded his ushers to remove her from the service. Though unresisting, she gave them no coöperation in their attempts to remove her. To expedite her removal the ushers lifted her up bodily and carried her down the aisle on their shoulders.

Triumphantly the austere pastor gazed upon her humiliation. But the well of praise had not failed in this withering emergency. As the ushers carried her down the aisle and out of the building she smiled joyfully and shouted from her exalted position, "Hallelujah, praise the Lord. My Saviour rode into Jerusalem on one ass but I am riding out of the church upon two."

She united with the Evangelical Church and remained for many years, until her death, a faithful member.

BUCKSKIN OR BUCKSHOT

While Rev. Valentine Buxton was serving as pastor on the Gladwin Charge, he found it necessary to be absent from the field over a certain Sunday. As a supply he sent to the Smith Creek Appointment

an aged Methodist minister whose ability to remember names was much impaired.

As he arose to open the service he explained that Brother "Buckskin" had been called away and had asked him to serve in his stead.

At the conclusion of the service, before the benediction had been pronounced, he announced that Brother "Buckshot" would be present for the service on the following Sunday. So far as we know the old gentleman did not notice his error. A few mirthful-minded members of the congregation did not allow the pastor to forget that he was both "Buckskin" and "Buckshot."

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